How Universal Bonding Improves Treatment Confidence
ON A PATIENT-TO-PATIENT BASIS, every restorative case is different. The clinician faces constant decisions about technique and materials, continually adjusting to the patient’s unique needs. Major factors that influence final material choice are strength, esthetics, durability, and patient expectations.

Durability is of course key part of the decision-making process. The American Dental Association states the average crown in America lasts about 10 years, but in reality patients expect it to last permanently.

However, the patient also has many other expectations, such as having a movie star smile. The dental team needs to set expectations versus realities and perceptions—including the belief that these restorations will last the rest of their lives. If we identify and address their beliefs, then we can prevent problems when their expectations are not met. When communication breaks down among the patient, team, dentist, and laboratory, time and money are lost, along with patient confidence.

Additional factors in restorative decisions include economics (for both the patient and the practice), patient cooperation, time constraints, and lifestyle. In addition, overall health and medications, even the patient’s bite force, can also impact how we choose restorations and what is going to work well over the long term.

Our daily challenges are quite complex, and the implementations are critical for a successful outcome for both the patient and the practitioner. It is important to be realistic about the materials that we use and select for our patients.

Contributor: Barry Bartusiak, DMD

DECISION POINTS
- Identifying the long-term versus short-term treatment outcomes and objectives
- Balancing patient expectations and perceptions
WE WANT OUR PATIENTS TO BE SATISFIED TODAY, and 10 years from now. A replacement material for enamel should have a similar hardness value to enamel and dentin. Most practitioners would agree probably that in the short term both composites and lab-constructed restorations produce exceptional esthetic results. However, we have different patients with varying needs. In certain areas and in certain amounts, a composite works better than zirconia. A patient’s biting forces and occlusion must be also a factor into the decision-making process, in addition to the composite’s biocompatibility and friendliness to the opposing dentition.

CASE EXAMPLE
Occlusal restorations: Class 1 on tooth #18 and Class 2 on tooth #19. Currently, Class 2 procedures comprise almost 40% of the average US dental practice in terms of annual revenue. Therefore, clinicians need to pay special attention to their Class 2 workflow and products.

When we work with composite in terms of durability and biocompatibility, it holds up exceptionally well. And a bonding agent such as iBOND Universal allows us to place those restorations confidently, and know that sensitivity levels will be very low—and the patient will be extremely satisfied.

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What to Expect from Universal Bonding

**THE PREDICTABILITY AND DURABILITY** of many restorative procedures is dependent on the ability to bond materials to tooth structure. Adhesion dentistry is increasingly complex, with no single solution for all clinical situations. However, technology is advancing: The latest category of adhesive products are now “universal,” which has been described as a single-bottle, no-mix, system that can be used in total-etch, self-etch, or selective-etch mode.

**FEATURES OF UNIVERSAL BONDING:**
- Durable, reliable bond strength
- Convenient and safe handling
- The clinician’s preferred bonding technique
- Applicability for all dental materials and all indications
- Short curing time
- No need of a dual cure activator
- Reduced technique sensitivity

**ONE BOTTLE, ALL INDICATIONS (DIRECT AND INDIRECT):**
- Bonding of direct restorations for all cavity classes (Black) using light-curing, dual-curing, or self-curing methacrylate-based composites/compomers
- Bonding of light-curing, dual-curing, or self-curing core build-up materials
- Sealing of hypersensitive tooth areas
- Sealing of cavities prior to amalgam restorations
- Bonding of fissure sealants
- Sealing of cavities and core preparations prior to temporary cementation of indirect restorations (according to the immediate dentine sealing technique)
- Cementation of indirect restorations with light-curing, dual-curing, or self-curing adhesive resin cements
- Intraoral repair of composite and compomer restorations, porcelain fused to metal, metal, and all-ceramic restorations
WITH **ibOND UNIVERSAL**, you get reliable bond strength in every case, whatever your preferred method is:

- **TOTAL-ETCH** – With an etching step for enamel and dentine. (1)
- **SELECTIVE ETCH** – With an etching step for enamel. (2)
- **SELF-ETCH** – No etching step is required. (3)

You still work with your preferred bonding technique, because iBOND Universal respects your personal habits. Furthermore, you benefit from a short curing time of only 10 seconds.
Multiple Benefits, One Bottle

iBOND UNIVERSAL IS THE UNIVERSAL, light-curing adhesive for any bonding technique and all indications. Being compatible with all dental materials, it is the all-rounder for reliable bond strength.

- Instant bonding success: Due to the unique moisture control system and optimal formula, iBOND Universal offers excellent dentine penetration and instant, reliable bond strength.

- Unique moisture control: Acetone acts like a water chaser and supports the fast evaporation of water. You benefit from this skillful system with easier air-drying, reduced technique-sensitivity and a homogeneous bonding layer.

- The all-rounder for bonding matters: iBOND Universal enables bonding of composite/compomer, precious metal, non-precious metal, zirconia or silicate ceramic, and is compatible with light-cure, dual-cure, and self-cure materials without the need of a dual-cure activator.

- Easy and precise application: Self-etch, total-etch, or selective etch - the choice is yours. In addition, our exclusive drop control bottle design delivers just the right amount of bonding agent you need.
Proven Reliability

**iBOND UNIVERSAL IS COMPATIBLE to**
self-cure & dual-cure cements

**BOND STRENGTH on gold standard level with iBOND Universal – in every technique even after simulated ageing which confirms low technique sensitivity**

**iBOND UNIVERSAL SHOWS high bond strength on all metal and ceramic surfaces**
Heraeus Kulzer GmbH is one of the world’s leading dental companies with its headquarters in Hanau, Germany. As a trusted partner, the company supplies dentists and dental technicians with an extensive product range, covering cosmetic dentistry, tooth preservation, prosthetics, periodontology and digital dentistry. More than 1,500 employees at 26 locations worldwide are driven by their expertise and passion for the dental market and embody what the name Heraeus Kulzer stands for: service, quality and innovation.

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Download detailed technique instructions

View an intraoral repair of zirconia

Scientific research on iBond Universal