Adhesive Bridge Preparation

Re-confirm consent, costs and MH. This may include a provisional denture for the interappointment wait

80% of adhesive bridges survive 5-10 years. 20% fail within the first 4 years.

Re-confirm the shade

Re-check occlusion, guidances and reference points

Depending on the depth of the planned preparation and the patient's anxiety level, consider administering LA

Cutting into dentine will cause sensitivity.

Anterior adhesive bridge:

- Single-winged design: Ensure parallel wall of the tooth.
- No preparation is required if 0.7mm of interocclusal space is present for the retainer.
- A minimal palatal/lingual feather edge or chamfer finish can help with seating of the bridge and increases resistance form.

Posterior adhesive bridge:

- Two-winged design: Ensure 5–8 degree taper of abutment teeth.
- Ensure parallel wall of the tooth.
- Minimum thickness of retainer- 0.7mm
- Minimum rest seat preparation- 0.5x 0.5mm.
- A minimal palatal/lingual feather edge or chamfer finish can help with seating of the bridge and increases resistance form.

Prepare the abutment, keeping within enamel. If there is an existing amalgam or carious restoration – replace with composite

Take impressions/scan. Syringe light body silicone or polyether around the preparation and across all the occlusal surfaces on the same arch. Take the impression with a medium/heavy body silicone or medium body polyether

Choose a rigid tray for a more accurate silicone or polyether impression. Retraction cord may be necessary to more accurately encapture the margin (*See page 109*).

Take an opposing arch alginate/ silicone/polyether impression

Take a bite registration. Use a silicone bite registration paste and ensure that the patient is occluding in ICP

Fill laboratory card. Store the impressions as per the manufacturer's instructions

Information to include:

- Shade – For lithium disilicate, include core shade and photos (so that the laboratory can decide between a low, medium and high translucency ingot).
- Pontic design.
- Metal wing coverage - maximal proximal +/-occlusal coverage for posterior retainers.
- Connector level.
- Embrasure space.
- Locating peg to help position the bridge wings
- Sandblasted metal wings.
- Request casts to be articulated according to the jaw registration provided +/- facebow for 2+ unit bridges.