Direct Post Preparation

Re-confirm the consent, costs, MH and shade

Re-check the occlusion, guidances and reference points

Administer local anaesthesia

Place rubber dam

Remove any previous restoration(s) and caries present

Refine the crown preparation margins according to the crown material selected (See page 112)

With reference to the radiograph and previous records, calculate the correct working length and post width required

Using a gates glidden bur (size 3 or 4), remove 2mm of GP from the entrance of the canal

Based on the post system being used, prepare the post space up to the correct post size

Additional retentive features can be incorporated into the preparation based on clinical judgement

Continue to the post cementation chapter

Decide on the temporisation method prior to starting the post preparation, please refer to post assessment page

If there is insufficient tooth remaining to hold a clamp, consider GIC building around the margins or a split dam technique (See page 78).

Aim for a 2mm ferrule to remain.

If the post preparation is carried out during an obturation appointment, these steps will already have been carried out.

It is essential that the apical seal is preserved, aim for 4mm of GP to remain in the apical third of the root.

Start with smallest drill size and increase sequentially until the chosen width of drill is reached.

Carefully angulate the post drill along the long axis of the tooth. GP feels softer than the surrounding dentine, follow the course of the canal based on tactile feedback. GP remnants on the threads of the post drill are a strong indicator that the preparation is within the canal.