

Temporary fixation - A field report by Janine Multhaupt

There are a variety of indications for the use of provisional restorations in dental practice. Also referred to merely as provisionals, temporary or provisional restorations are usually removed and cemented back in several times during the course of treatment. The same applies to the permanent restoration that is fixated provisionally at first. But before the temporary or permanent restoration can be reinserted, any cement residues must be removed. A probe, excavator or scaler are the instruments usually used for this purpose. It is common practice to hold the restoration with one hand while wielding one of these instruments to remove the excess cement with the other (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Removing the cement

It is a very common occurrence, however, that the provisional is pierced from the inside or that parts of its thin rim are chipped off. In the worst case scenario, the temporary restoration may need to be replaced entirely. Moreover, the sharp instruments employed may cause injuries. Instruments also frequently slip or can stick through gloves. Although this does not usually result in serious injury, there is nevertheless the risk of infection. In addition, the scaled-off flakes from the temporary luting cement can lead to contamination of the surgical field. In conclusion, it can be stated that the process of removing temporary cement from restorations is an unpleasant task that also carries the risk of injury, but is nevertheless an essential part of routine in the dental office.

So I was all the more delighted when I visited Renfert's stand at the IDS 2019 to learn about their convenient alternative temp:ex—a temporary cement remover. Our dental office was provided with a product sample.

Its application is very simple: The restoration to be cleaned is placed in a beaker (Fig. 2) and covered with the blue alkaline liquid. Within about 10 minutes' exposure, the zinc oxide-based cement is softened such that it only needs to be rinsed off with water. Occasionally, you might need a toothbrush to remove any cement residues still left on. Obviously, you are required to wear gloves and eye protection when performing these steps.



Fig. 2: Restorations in the beaker

After up to 60 minutes of storing materials in temp:ex, we compared their surfaces against a reference measurement in water and found that the solvent had no negative effects on the surface quality of the materials tested. Therefore, when the task is to remove temporary cement from provisionally fitted restorations, the use of temp:ex is highly recommended for streamlining workflows in the dental office. The product is simple, time-saving and reliable.

And compared to the use of an immersion bath alone, an additional pin impact cleaning device is even more time efficient. The SYMPRO denture cleaning device also features a Mini-Cup Set extension for cleaning provisional restorations. This set contains a small bowl that is hygienically reprocessable, a dosage aid for the cleaning needles that also serves as a seal, along with an adapter ring that attaches the mini cup to the SYMPRO cleaning unit (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3: The SYMPRO with Mini-Cup Set

The restoration to be cleaned is placed in the bowl with the appropriate quantity of cleaning needles and cleaning fluid and left in the cleaning unit for 5 minutes at 2000 rpm. In the meantime, you and your practice staff can perform other chores while the SYMPRO does the cleaning work on its own and in half the time. Once the cleaning cycle is over, you just have to rinse off the restoration with water. What the two application options featured by the temp:ex temporary cement remover both have in common is that they are safe, fast and ultra-convenient.

Conclusion: temp:ex really works. Safely and reliably. And delivers!



Before



After



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