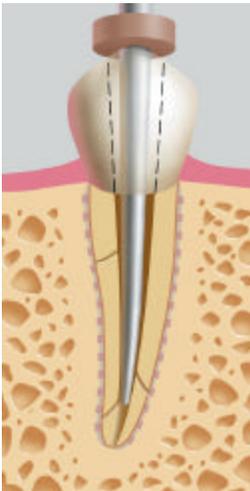


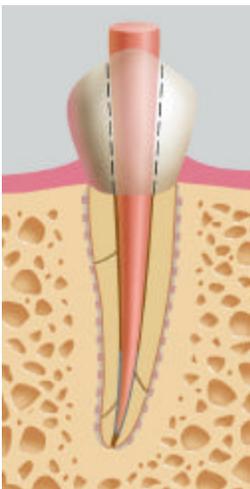
1

A non-standardized gutta-percha cone, fine-medium or medium is chosen for its adaptation to the shape of the root canal space. Tugback occurs within the apical control zone created by the shaping and cleaning procedure. The feathered tip (1/2 mm) of the gutta-percha cone is removed.



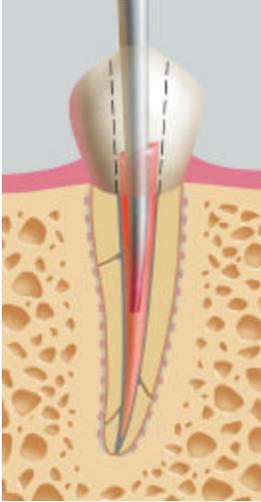
2

A System B™ condenser/plugger is chosen that matches the shape of the prepared canal and the gutta-percha cone. The plugger is prefit to its binding point (i.e. 18mm). The rubber stopper is then positioned 2mm shy of binding point (i.e. 16mm) to minimize direct contact on dentin.



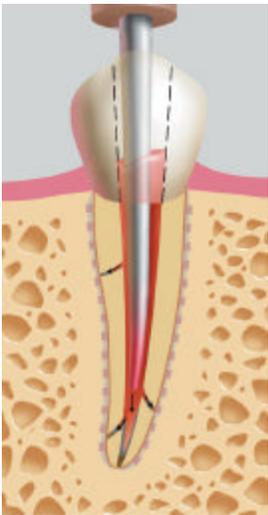
3

A drop of sealer is placed in the canal using the apical gauging file. The apical 4 mm of the master cone is coated with sealer and using gentle pressure, the cone is seated to place. The advent of new resin sealers in the endodontic armamentarium is eliminating the residual variable of sealer as the weak link. The resin sealers adhere to the dentin and to the gutta-percha better than the previous generation of zinc-oxide and eugenol based sealers.



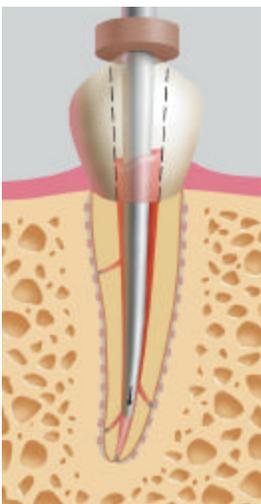
4

The System B™ Heat Source is turned to USE and placed in the Touch mode. The omni-directional ring switch is activated and the plugger plunges smoothly through the gutta-percha mass.



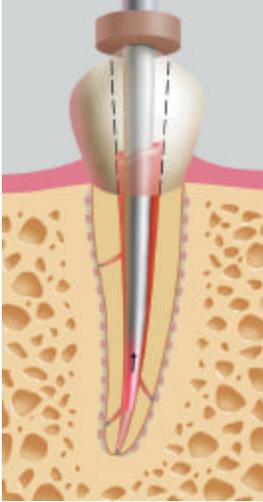
5

As the heated plugger (200 degrees C) approaches the binding point, the ring switch is released which allows the plugger/condenser to continue its apical movement.



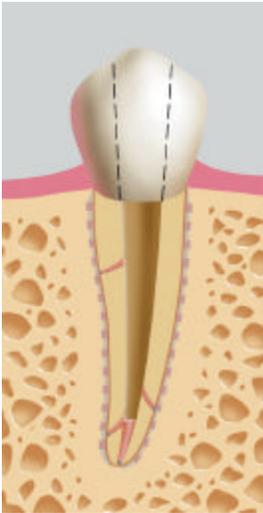
6

Apical pressure is maintained on the apical plug of gutta-percha for a 10 second sustained push to prevent cooling shrinkage.



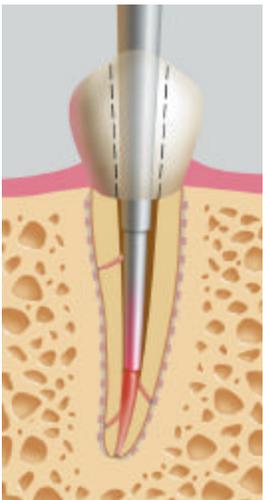
7

While maintaining apical pressure, the ring switch is activated again for 1 full second. The switch is released and the plugger quickly withdrawn.



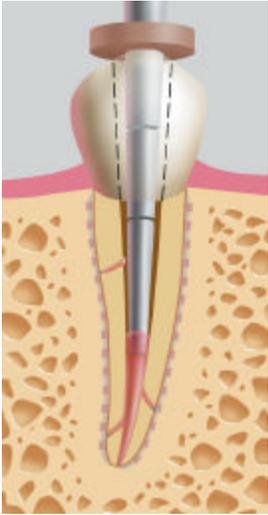
8

As the pluggers heat from the tip back, the separation burst removes the coronal flash of gutta-percha leaving a clean interface and a dense homogeneous mass of gutta-percha sealing the apical third.



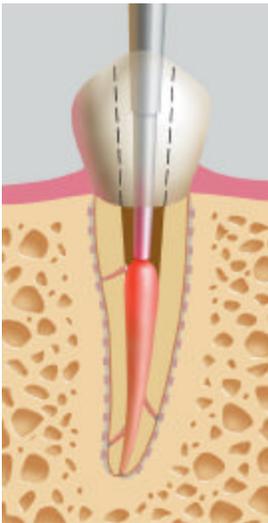
9

Sealer is applied to the walls of the canal before beginning to backfill. The applicator tip of the Obtura II™ thermoplasticized delivery system is inserted into the coronal aspect of the apical plug. It is allowed to warm the gutta-percha and a 4 mm increment is delivered.



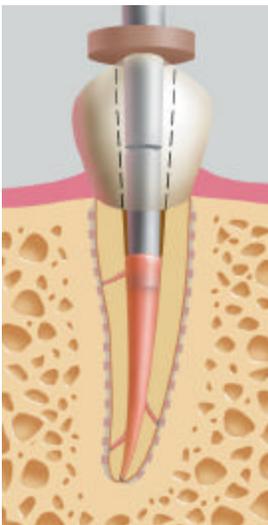
10

Prefit Schilder pluggers are now used to condense the thermosoftened gutta-percha. Slow measured delivery ensures the densest mass of material.



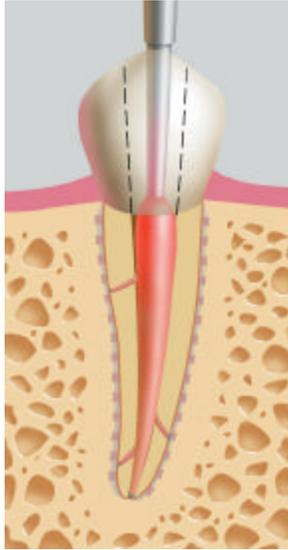
11

The cycle begins with the #8 Schilder plugger and continues with each aliquot application using the #9 and #10 condensers.

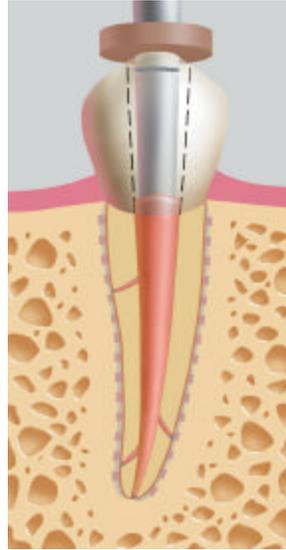


12

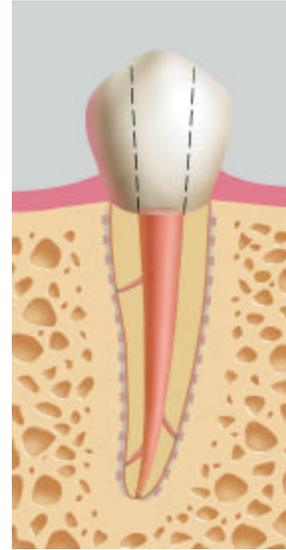
The entire canal space should be sealed initially regardless of whether a post is planned or not. Lateral canals are present throughout the furcation and interfurcal region of all multi-rooted teeth.



13



14



15

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