PVS IMPRESSION TAKING TECHNIQUE

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PURPOSE

Although it has been noted that with more experience PVS impressions become simpler to take, some patients’ dentitions are the exception to the rule.

METHODS

Impression tray, PVS putty material, vinyl gloves, medium-body impression material

This is a description of the “Putty Seal Technique”, which is used for 1-step PVS material and involves creating a posterior putty seal on the soft tissue posterior to the molars. The purpose of this technique is to capture the 2nd molars accurately, to prevent PVS material flowing towards the patient’s soft palate, and to allow accurate PVS impressions to be taken on the first visit with minimal effort. PVS putty (catalyst and base) is mixed for 30 seconds with vinyl gloves (figure 1) and placed in the posterior portion of the tray (figure 2). The tray is then placed in the patient’s mouth and seated fully (figure 3). The tray is immediately removed after seating (while the putty is soft) to allow the doctor to push out/remove the detail of the most distal teeth (figure 4). The tray is then immediately filled with a medium-body PVS material (figure 5), completely seated in the patient’s mouth and removed after both the putty and the medium-body PVS are fully set (figure 6).

Figures 1-6 on reverse.

SUMMARY

The putty on the retromolar tissue creates a seal, which causes the medium-body material to completely flow around the molars without spilling towards the soft palate, resulting in an accurate impression. About half of the material used in the figure is actually needed to create an effective putty seal.

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These tips have not been tested in clinical trials but are personal techniques from experienced colleagues using Invisalign. Some tips have been used on many cases and some on only a few. It is at your discretion to use them where appropriate to best get the results you want with Invisalign.
PVSImpression Taking Technique

Invisalign Tips & Techniques

Figure 1: Mix putty for 30 seconds. Use vinyl gloves only.

Figure 2: Form a post dam.

Figure 3: Seat tray completely and remove immediately.

Figure 4: Smooch out detail of molar impression. Do not let putty set.

Figure 5: Fill tray with medium body PVS immediately.

Figure 6: Take final impression.

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