Travel & Learn Program:

Costa Rica
Contemporary Applications of Porcelain Veneers: A New Paradigm for the 21st Century

Abdolreza Sameni, DDS

Dr. Abd Sameni graduated from USC School of Dentistry in 1991 and has been a member of the USC clinical faculty since 1998. He is faculty and lecturer for the Esthetic Selective course at USC and Chair of the USC International Restorative Symposium. Dr. Sameni was the first faculty member to serve and direct the portion relating to indirect porcelain veneers for the USC Advanced Esthetic Dentistry Continuum. He is currently directing an intensive lecture and hands-on course focusing on indirect bonded porcelain restorations. Dr. Sameni lectures regularly on topics related to interdisciplinary dentistry, digital photography and its applications for dentistry, as well as on topics related to esthetic dentistry. He is Past-President of the USC Dental Alumni Association, President-Elect of the USC Century Club and member of the Board of Counselors of the USC School of Dentistry. Dr. Sameni maintains a private practice in West Los Angeles, where he emphasizes comprehensive restorative dentistry, including implant reconstruction and esthetic dentistry.

Synopsis

As patients get older, “thinning”, “chipping” and “discoloration” are common esthetic problems. These are often the result of high-acid diet and/or functional and parafunctional wear. If left untreated, the affected teeth will become functionally compromised and ultimately unattractive.

This aging phenomenon coupled with patients’ desire to preserve their youthful appearance, as well as recent media attention to porcelain veneers have generated a “boom” in the area of esthetic dentistry to the point that patients are increasingly demanding them. Current advances in material sciences and biomechanics have produced evidence which supports restoration of these weakened teeth to improve function and enhance esthetics.

This course will familiarize practitioners with the most contemporary evidence-based clinical knowledge concerning bonded porcelain restorations. Furthermore, a treatment philosophy, which respects the vitality and biomechanical properties of the intact teeth while improving function and enhance esthetics.

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Topics To Be Covered:
- Diagnosis and treatment planning with an emphasis on bonded restorations
- Smile analysis and design
- Case presentation for patients using PowerPoint and photography
- Diagnostic 3-dimensional moc up previews
- Preparation design using reduction guides and mock ups
- Immediate dentin sealing
- Provisional techniques and fabrications
- Impressions
- Cementation philosophy and techniques
- Porcelain selection and surface preparation
- Shade taking using photography
- Lab communication using PowerPoint and photography
- Choosing different esthetic materials and matching them
- Bonded restorations’ role in the restoration of vertical dimension of occlusion
- Replacement of failing veneers
- Veneers and periodontally involved teeth
- Smile make-overs in the presence of facial asymmetries

Melia Cariari is a 5 star hotel situated in the beautiful tropical Central Valley of Costa Rica at about 3,500 feet above sea level and offers its guests a charming and very comfortable stay. Despite being near to the equator the elevation produces a year-round mild climate in the 70s and 80s. In December the weather is dry, sunny and warm. The hotel is conveniently situated 10 minutes drive away from both the airport and San Jose city center. Across the road is the modern spacious Cariari Mall for shopping and fun. In the grounds of the hotel are a supermarket, pharmacy, and ATM.

As a 5 star hotel, Melia Cariari offers luxurious air conditioned rooms, 2 pools, a children’s pool, gym, sauna, massage service, and restaurants serving local and international food including French cuisine. Facilities also include a casino, souvenir shop, art gallery, beauty parlor, rent-a-car, tour desk, fully equipped business center, cable TV and internet access in rooms, doctor on call and baby-sitting service. The hotel also provides an exclusive shuttle service to the Valle de Golf, an 18-hole par 71 golf course.

On the course days, coffee with savories/pastries are served during breaks, in addition to a delicious 3-course lunch. The high-quality teaching facility will ensure your comfort.

The central location of the hotel is ideal for day tours to Poaz and Arenal volcanoes, Tabacon hot springs and gardens, La Paz waterfall and butterfly gardens, jungle cruises, cloud forests, canopy tours, and white water rafting. For a restful day you can visit the Multiplaza Mall in Escazu for elegant shops and sample the multinational cuisine in the surrounding restaurants.

HOTEL MELÍA CARIARI, SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

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