

Rescue of Endodontically Treated Teeth...

Summary: Endodontic treatment is largely performed on teeth significantly affected by caries, multiple repeat restorations and/or fracture. Already structurally weakened, such teeth are often further weakened by the endodontic procedures designed to provide optimal access and by the restorative procedures necessary to rebuild the tooth. Loss of inherent dentinal fluid may also effect an alteration in tooth properties. It is therefore accepted that endodontically treated teeth are weaker and tend to have a lower lifetime prognosis. They require special considerations for the final restoration, particularly where there has been extensive loss of tooth structure. The special needs involve ensuring both adequate retention for the final restoration and maximum resistance to tooth fracture. Together, and both equally important, retention and resistance features for the final restoration are sometimes collectively termed anchorage. Ensuring optimal anchorage while maintaining adequate root strength for the particular clinical situation can be challenging and the problems encountered have resulted in the development of many different materials and techniques.