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The effect of clinical polishing protocols on  
ceramic surface texture and wear rate of opposing  
enamel: A laboratory study

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## **PREFACE**

This thesis reports on research completed during my Doctorate of Clinical Dentistry at the School of Dentistry, The University of Adelaide, from January 2010 to December 2012. There were two aims of the research project. Firstly to determine the polishability of modern CAD glass ceramic restorative material and secondly to investigate what influence the surface texture of modern CAD glass ceramics had on the wear rate of opposing enamel tooth structure.



## ABSTRACT

There has been a significant increase in the delivery of all ceramic restorations especially with the global explosion of CAD CAM technology. Frequently, the ceramic restorations require refinements to the surfaces with abrasives prior to or after cementation. If adjustments are made to a glazed or non-glazed surface after cementation, only mechanical polishing is an option to restore the surface texture.

Surface roughness of ceramic restorations influences the aesthetics, functional and biological parameters of the restoration [1, 2]. A relatively rough surface can negatively influence the strength [3, 4] and longevity of a restoration [5, 6], increase friction [7] and rate of wear of the restoration [8] and opposing tooth structure [9], promote gingival inflammation [10], adverse soft tissue reactions [11], and the accumulation of stains and plaque on the surface [12-14]. Recent low fusing ceramics have properties which improve the surface characteristics and allows a relatively smoother surface to be achieved either by glazing or polishing [15, 16].

The aim of this study is to increase the understanding of the surface characteristics produced from either glazing or polishing and what impact the surface texture produced from such finishing methods has on the wear rate of opposing enamel. Clinically this will assist with decision making regarding the most effective method to achieve an optimal ceramic surface finish.

## DECLARATION

This work contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma in any other university or other tertiary institution to Michael Zaninovich and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due reference has been made in the text.

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Dated this.....day of .....2013

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