

#DM2002-19

“COMPOSITE FILLINGS”

OVER THE LAST 45 YEARS, MATERIALS USED TO HELP RESTORE DECAYED TEETH HAVE ADVANCED.

COMPOSITES OR WHITE FILLINGS ARE THE MATERIAL OF CHOICE FOR MANY PATIENTS TODAY. COMPOSITES ARE FILLING MATERIALS DESIGNED TO MATCH THE COLOR OF YOUR TEETH AND BLEND IN WITH YOUR TOOTH ENAMEL.

THEY'RE A PERFECT CHOICE WHEN THE CAVITY IS IN A VISIBLE AREA, SUCH AS ON THE FRONT TEETH, AT THE GUM LINE, OR SOME BACK TEETH WHEN RESTORATION IS SMALL. THE TWO MAIN INGREDIENTS ARE PLASTIC RESIN AND A FILLER OF FINELY GROUND GLASS-LIKE PARTICLES.

ALTHOUGH COMPOSITES ARE PREFERRED FOR COSMETIC REASONS, IF A CAVITY IS TOO LARGE, OR IS IN AN AREA WHERE MUCH CHEWING OCCURS, YOUR DENTIST MAY RECOMMEND A DIFFERENT RESTORATIVE MATERIAL.

LIKE ALL FILLINGS, COMPOSITES, OVER TIME, MAY NEED REPLACING. SCHEDULE REGULAR DENTAL CHECK-UPS IN ORDER TO DETECT ANY PROBLEMS EARLY.

FOR THE ADA DENTAL MINUTE, I'M DR. MARIA LOPEZ HOWELL.