Clinical alternatives to amalgam and composite in compromised patients

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Dr. Alan Atlas received his DMD degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and is currently a clinical professor in the departments of endodontics and preventive and restorative sciences. He is co-director of the Endodontic-Restorative Microscopy and Technology Clinic and is involved in the development and integration of clinical research studies for ceramics, CAD-CAM, and dental materials. Each year, Dr. Atlas’s peers select him as a “top dentist” in Philadelphia. He publishes on various topics in dentistry, lectures internationally, and maintains a private practice that is dedicated to esthetic and comprehensive restorative dentistry.

COURSE OUTLINE
The quest to find an alternative to amalgam for long-term, successful posterior restorations has been challenging for the dental profession. Comparative studies demonstrate that amalgam routinely outperforms adhesively-placed composite restorations in longevity. Despite these clinical trial results, patients often choose composite for its appearance and also environmental and health concerns over mercury in amalgam materials. This evidenced-based presentation will review treatment planning risk factors for placing composites and will explore the other options available to clinicians when compromised clinical situations exist.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
At the end of this course, participants will know how to:

- Understand the risk factors for placing adhesive-based composite resin restorations
- Understand what the scientific evidence reveals in terms of the efficacy of "bio-active" restorative materials
- Understand clinical protocols to optimize restorative procedures in compromised patients