

What you don't know about zirconia can hurt you.

The leading prescribed fixed restoration in the United States today is... Full Contour Zirconia crowns. **And which zirconia your lab uses matters!**

The sad truth is, not all zirconia is the same. There have been cases of contaminated zirconia, and so called grey market zirconia exhibiting various quality problems. So what? It's in your practices' best interest to learn more about this standard of care material. The last thing any practice needs is unhappy patients due to substandard materials.

Where it starts.

The majority of raw zirconia is mined in Australia. After the zirconia is extracted it needs to be cleaned of other trace materials. Often this process is completed in China. Unfortunately, some Chinese suppliers do not maintain especially high standards for their processes.

"We have discovered that some zirconia purchased online from China contained high levels of cadmium," (which — of course — should not be in anyone's body) according to an analysis conducted by the National Association of Dental Laboratories.

Laboratories may be seduced into buying substandard zirconia. A laboratory facing tremendous price pressures may buy grey market zirconia, at greatly reduced prices, in order to be able to offer cheap crowns. **A typical lab may not be able to confirm it is even FDA approved.** While the price may be less, you need to ask yourself, "Why is it so cheap?"

Quality laboratories only purchase zirconia for your patients that is fabricated to world class standards. Yes, it's more expensive, but patient safety is not about saving a few cents. Our zirconia supplier purchases raw materials from a Japanese source with more than 100 years experience in the ceramic materials arena. Prepared to exacting standards established by our supplier, they work diligently to assure only the best quality raw materials are in the material we use.

Aesthetic advances

The first zirconia on the market had a strength of around 1400Mpa and was indicated only for posterior restorations. It was not really aesthetically acceptable. However, more aesthetic zirconia is now available that melds the strength zirconia is known for, and the aesthetics needed for anterior restorations. **Beyond Plus™ zirconia (1100 MPa)** is appropriate for all indications, from 12 unit bridges to single crowns.

Zirconia has made huge leaps in aesthetics, with continued research and development it has become a viable alternative to lithium disilicate. **While being almost 3x as strong.**

It is important for you to know

Our laboratory uses only high-quality zirconia from a trusted supplier who we have verified. We know this will assure your patients' safety and is our highest concern. **Is zirconia the right choice for your practice?** Call us to discuss the best treatments options for your patients