

# Ceramic Crowns & Fixed Prosthesis (Bridges)

Crowns or bridges made entirely of ceramic materials are available. There are numerous types and brand names of these restorations.

## **Advantages of ceramic crowns and fixed prostheses:**

1. They can be constructed to a highly acceptable esthetic level. These restorations are the most beautiful and natural-appearing restorations in dentistry.
2. Ceramic restorations do not have metal undercopings, as do porcelain-fused-to-metal crowns. Therefore, these crowns are biologically compatible and have extremely low allergenicity or toxicity.

## **Disadvantages of ceramic crowns and fixed prostheses:**

1. In the past, some of these restorations were not as strong as metal or porcelain-fused-to-metal restorations. If the bite was especially abusive, some ceramic restorations did not have adequate strength. However, the use of extremely strong ceramic materials, introduced in the last few years, are now becoming the most-used materials for crowns.
2. Some types of ceramic restorations can be made into fixed prostheses (bridges) with adequate longevity expectations and others cannot.

If you have a need for an optimum esthetic result or you have allergies to metals used in dentistry, you should consider all-ceramic restorations. If not, porcelain-fused-to-metal or metal restorations have the longest proven successful longevity.