

Endodontic Post Evolution: From Metal to Quartz Light-Post by R.T.D.

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Most clinicians have now accepted the primary role of the post as the retainer of the core, in spite of reports, which still point to the belief that they reinforce an endodontically treated tooth.¹ Metal posts were designed to be retentive whereas fiber posts have been designed to be adhesive. The advent of adhesive technology has resulted in the use of new materials in post and core procedures. With the latest generation of dentin bonding agents boasting increased bond strengths, it may be possible to obtain an integrated tooth-post-core bonded restoration instead of an assemblage of heterogeneous materials (ie, post [metal], cement [zinc phosphate], core [metal, amalgam, or

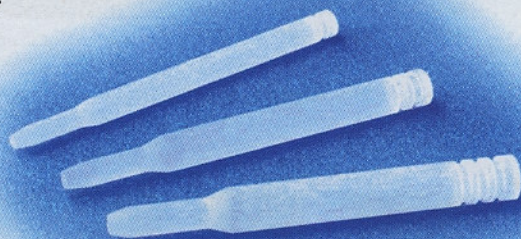


FIGURE 1 RTD Light-Post.

composite resin)]; thus creating the possibility of an internally bonded restoration.² The key to accomplishing this task is a post, which can be bonded to both the root and as well to the core material. During a three-year prospective study utilizing carbon fiber reinforced epoxy resin posts (RTD Composipost) in endodontically treated teeth, which had lost more than 50% of their structure; there were no adhesive failures.³ There were no fractures and none of the Composiposts debonded from the root.

Metal has long past its prime as the gold standard of post material.

In the search for the perfect post, materials which are biocompatible, mimic the modulus

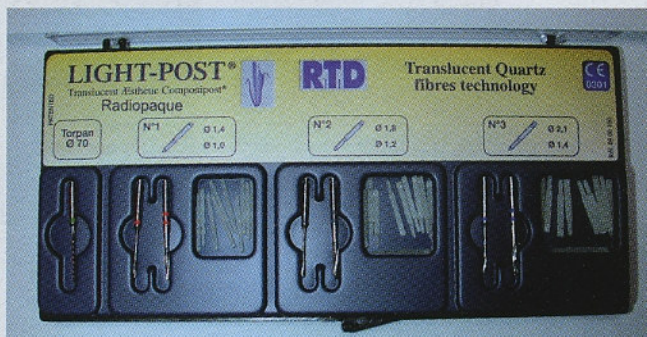


FIGURE 2 Light Post Kit.