

NEWSLETTER**Does Obturation Technique Make A Difference
In the Outcome of Endodontic Treatment?**

Yes. Although meticulous shaping and cleaning of the entire root canal system is vital to endodontic success, the obturation technique used to seal the system has a significant impact on the outcome.

Vertical compaction of warm gutta percha was a technique first described by Schilder. It involves placing a custom fit gutta percha cone with an appropriate taper and tugback in the canal. Then, through several cycles of heating and compaction the gutta percha is molded into all the irregularities of the canal space, and is driven apically to seal all the foramina.

It has the following advantages to lateral condensation:

- I. It produces less “wedging” forces on the root, and is less likely to lead to vertical fracture (Blum, 1998).
- II. It fills twice as many accessory canals (Brothman, 1981).
- III. It leads to a superior adaptation of gutta percha into the dentinal tubules when the smear layer is removed (Gutmann, 1993).
- IV. It leads to a significantly higher success rate versus lateral condensation in teeth presenting with pre-operative periapical lesions (Aqrabawi, 2006).

To see sample cases obturated with this technique please visit the dental professional section of our website at www.ccendo.net.