



# An aesthetic and biomimetic approach with a glass hybrid for direct restorations

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Glass ionomer (GI) was first introduced in the 1970s<sup>1</sup>.

Currently, it is extensively being used for cores, bases/liners, and the cementation of posts, crowns, and fixed bridges.

Although, they have numerous advantages, the first GIs were thought to be too rough or unaesthetic due to their opacity for anterior restorations and not durable enough for posterior restorations. However, GIs have been greatly improved since they were first introduced. Many of those earlier concerns have now been fully addressed by manufacturers.

In 2007, EQUIA was launched, a restorative system comprising a GI and a synergistic light-cured nano-filled coating agent. It became the first GI-based system that was indicated for permanent Class II restorations, albeit with cavity size restrictions. Eight years later, the first glass hybrid system, EQUIA Forte, was launched, based on the success of EQUIA.

Owing to the new glass hybrid filler technology, the indications for EQUIA Forte could be extended to load-bearing Class II restorations (without cusp involvement). While composite resins are often the first choice for direct aesthetic restorations, specific features of GIs may make them a better choice in certain indications.



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