

Case Report

# Conservative Dental Management of a Patient With Amelogenesis Imperfecta Under Oral Sedation: A Case Report

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## Abstract

Amelogenesis imperfecta (AI) is a rare hereditary developmental disease that has a significant effect on the enamel structure. Both primary and permanent dentition could be affected by this condition. The pivotal characteristics are loss of the tooth structure, wear of enamel, and exposed dentinal areas at the occlusal surface of posterior teeth. AI may be inherited in autosomal dominant, autosomal recessive, or X-linked types. Treatments of AI cases should be initiated in childhood and continue into adolescence. Considering that AI is a rare and heterogeneous condition, the dental team faces various difficulties regarding choosing the appropriate treatment plan. The oral rehabilitation of patients with AI is a challenging condition that needs a multidisciplinary approach. Many treatment options have been reported for solving cosmetic and restorative problems in AI cases. The conservative treatment plan in this hypoplastic-hypomature AI case included esthetic rehabilitation with a sequential method, innovative non-invasive pulp-therapy methods, and dental restorations under oral sedation. The written consent for the treatments was obtained after consultation with the child and his parents.

**Keywords:** Amelogenesis imperfecta, Conscious sedation, Dental enamel hypoplasia, Tooth hypomineralization

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## Background

Amelogenesis imperfecta (AI) is an uncommon hereditary developmental disease which has a crucial impact on the structure of enamel (1). Both primary and permanent teeth can be influenced by this condition. The pivotal characteristics of this disease include loss of the tooth structure, wear of enamel, and exposed dentinal areas at the occlusal surface of posterior teeth. Hypoplasia and enamel degradation could lead to cosmetic issues, tooth hypersensitivity, predilection to caries formation, and vertical dimension decreases (2,3). AI may be inherited in autosomal dominant, autosomal recessive, or X-linked types (4). In addition, it has 3 major types (i.e., hypoplastic, hypomatured, and hypocalcified) depending on the stages of the tooth formation process (5).

Treatments of AI cases should be initiated at childhood and continue into adolescence (6). Given that AI is a rare and heterogeneous condition, the dental team encounters a wide variety of difficulties with respect to selecting an accurate treatment plan (7). Patients' rehabilitation with AI is a challenging condition that requires the use of a multidisciplinary approach. Various treatment alternatives

have been reported for solving cosmetic problems and restorative treatments in AI cases (8,9).

The conservative treatment plan in this hypoplastic-hypomature AI case consisted of esthetic rehabilitation with a sequential method, innovative non-invasive pulp therapy methods, and dental restorations under mild oral sedation.

## Case Report

### Medical and Dental History

A 10 years old boy with the chief complaint of tooth pain and esthetic demands was referred to the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Zanjan Dental School. The tooth sensitivity led to discomfort during regular drinking and eating.

He was dissatisfied with the presence of spots on anterior teeth (Figure 1). The medical history of the patient included a Choledochal cyst and clubfoot. The general physical condition was normal and his vital signs were within a normal range. The examination of cardiovascular, respiratory, and neural systems did not demonstrate any specific symptoms. The child has never visited the dentist before.



### Conservative and Preventive Management of the Overall Oral Health Condition

Recommendations for improving oral hygiene were made, including the daily use of casein phosphopeptide-amorphous calcium phosphate (MI Paste; Recaldent™) in a pea-size (10) to induce the buffering capacity of the saliva with calcium and phosphate. Daily consumption of 5 g of xylitol gum (Hager & Werken GmbH & Co. KG, Duisburg, Germany) three times a day was also prescribed to reduce the risk of caries (11). Finally, oxalate desensitizer (BisBlock, BISCO, Inc, Schaumburg, IL, USA) was applied for 30 seconds and rinsed to diminish tooth sensitivity (12).

### Conservative Behavior Management

The child was considered negative on Frankl's Rating Scale. At the first visit, the "Tell Show Do" approach was applied to decrease anxiety. Audiovisual distraction (as virtual reality) was utilized but it was not effective. Due to the known needle phobia in the child, the treatments requiring anesthesia were performed under mild oral sedation. All stages of treatment were performed under the supervision of an experienced anesthesiologist, and vital signs were monitored carefully. Parents were asked to keep the child NPO for 6 hours. Oral melatonin 0.3 mg/kg (Vegetarian Formula, Vitane Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., NY, USA) dissolved in the fruit juice was prescribed 1 hour before treatment initiation (13). The child reported no pain or discomfort during the injection and no adverse reactions during pulp therapy.

### Conservative Esthetic Treatments

The written consent for the treatments was obtained after consultation with the child and his parents. Bleaching was applied to the second maxillary left incisor to diminish the contrast between white spots and unaffected areas of the tooth. In addition, 35% hydrogen peroxide-based bleaching material (Whiteness HP Maxx, FGM, Joinville, SC, Brazil) was employed over the buccal surface of the tooth 3 times and remained on the tooth for 15 minutes each time. In the next session, hypoplastic spots were treated with microabrasion. The tooth was isolated by a rubber dam, and the abrasive paste (Opalustre, Ultradent Products, South Jordan, UT, USA), comprising of silicon carbamide microparticulate paste and 6.6% hydrochloric acid, was applied as well. Resin infiltration therapy (Icon, DMG Products, Hamburg, Germany) was performed 2 weeks later (14). Further, 15% HCL was utilized for 2 minutes, and then rinsed off with water spray for 30 seconds and underwent drying. Ethanol was used for



Figure 1. Hypoplastic-hypomature Maxillary and Mandibular Anterior Teeth.

30 seconds followed by air-drying. ICON-Infiltrant was applied and remained on the buccal surface of the tooth for 3 minutes. The excess resin was removed by a cotton roll and then cured for 40 seconds (Figure 2).

The appearance of other maxillary and mandibular incisors was improved by composite veneers (Herculite Ultra, enamel shade [Kerr Corporation, Orange, CA USA], Figure 3). Direct composite restorations could conceal tooth discolorations and hypoplastic spots and ameliorate dental esthetics. It needs less or no preparation to protect the tooth structure. The child and his parents were extremely happy and satisfied with the cosmetic result.

### Conservative Pulp Treatments

In the first upper and lower right molars, indirect pulp capping was considered according to the amount of caries in the teeth. To reduce the sensation of pain during anesthesia, the cartridge was heated to 42 °C (15). Then, 1.4 mL of 4% articaine cartridge with 1: 100 000 epinephrine (Septanest N., Septodont, France) was used for more effective anesthesia. Photodynamic therapy (PDT) with 50 mW power at 60 seconds with 660 nm wavelength was applied to reduce the amount of mutants and lactobacillus in the remaining leathery dentin (Hager and Werken GmbH and Co. Duisburg, Germany). In this tooth, Theracal (Bisco, Schaumburg, IL, USA) was the capping material of choice.

Due to the spread of caries to the pulp borders, partial pulpotomy was considered in the first left upper and lower molars (Figure 4). The capping material of choice in this tooth was Biodentine (Septodont, Saint-Maur-des-Fossés, France). A gentle tapping was performed before opening a

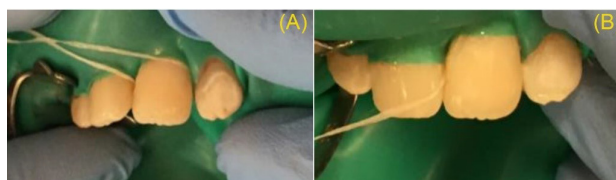


Figure 2. Before (A) and Instantly After (B) Resin Infiltration (ICON-Infiltrant) of Maxillary Lateral Incisor.



Figure 3. Composite Veneers of Maxillary and Mandibular Incisors.

Biodentine capsule. To mix the powder, five drops of liquid were dispensed into the capsule, which was triturated for 30 seconds. The mixture was placed into the pulp chamber, and the setting reaction was completed in 12 minutes (16).

Cervical pulpotomy was performed for both upper second primary molars using Biodentine. All maxillary, mandibular primary, and permanent molars were restored by stainless steel crowns.

### Conservative Orthodontic Treatment

A cephalometric radiograph (Figure 5) analysis revealed a hyperdivergent clockwise rotation of jaw bases and confirmed skeletal open bite. To reduce the problem, trans-palatal arch (TPA) was considered for the patient to facilitate maxillary molar intrusion. Additionally, to control vertical dimension, a lingual arch was employed in the mandible (Figure 6). This conservative treatment approach was considered to simplify future comprehensive orthodontic treatments.

### Discussion

AI is a dental anomaly comprising of hereditary disorders that influence the quality and/or quantity of the enamel (17). AI management could be disputing because of enamel fragility, extended pulp horns, and pulp chambers in children and young adults and severe tooth sensitivity.



Figure 4. Partial Pulpotomy of Maxillary Left Molar Using Biodentine.



Figure 5. Lateral Cephalometric Analysis Indicated Skeletal Open Bite.

This condition leads to a lack of self-esteem, anxiety, and social dysfunction (18,19). AI may induce crucial restorative and occasional orthodontic challenges for practitioners (20). The management of AI cases depends on the severity of the symptoms, type of dentition, age, and the chief complaint of the patient. Numerous dental treatments have been suggested for the management of AI patients, including surgical crown lengthening and metal-ceramic-fixed dental prostheses (21), and composite rehabilitation followed by orthodontic treatment (22).

In this case report, the dental treatments of an AI child were performed with a non-invasive approach. The main difference between this case report and similar ones is the conservative approach in all dental treatments. Ordinary, dental treatments for children with known phobias are performed under general anesthesia (23), but sedation has been successfully applied due to the conservative aspects of the treatments in this case. It should be noted that passive or active restraint was not applied in any stages of dental treatments. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first case report utilizing oral sedation in the management of an AI case.

In most cases, invasive methods such as all-ceramic crowns have been used to treat cosmetic problems in AI cases (24, 25). All-ceramic veneers can be prescribed when skeletal growth and soft tissue development are complete. Given that the child is 10 years old in this case, and the age of completion of growth is 18-20 years, full mouth fixed prosthetic restoration could not be chosen to improve the esthetic condition of the child (26). Previously, the sequential method has been employed in case reports, but this technique has been used in adults in most cases (27,28). The innovation of this report case, compared to other case reports, is that sequential minimally invasive techniques were successfully applied in a 10 years old patient.

Enamel deficiency makes teeth extremely sensitive to thermal and contact stimuli. Composite resin restorations are a solution to this problem as they protect the remaining structure. After the restoration of all teeth with a direct



Figure 6. (A) Occlusal View of Maxillary and Mandibular Arch Before Treatment and (B) Occlusal View of Maxillary and Mandibular Arch After Oral Rehabilitation, TPA of Maxillary Arch for Molar Intrusion and Lingual Arch of Mandibular Arch for Vertical Control. Note. TPA: Trans-palatal arch.





**Figure 7.** Lateral View of (A) Before and (B) After Full Mouth Rehabilitation.

composite resin, the patient no longer had esthetic complaints and could restore his normal eating habits. Rizzo reported a similar successful esthetic rehabilitation of an AI case by direct composite resin in a 38 years old patient (29).

Another superiority of this case report to similar AI case reports was the use of PDT for indirect pulp capping (IPC). PDT is a conservative technique that applies a low-level laser to cease the growth of *Streptococcus mutans* (30). Based on the result of this study, de Oliveira et al also concluded that PDT could be a suitable choice for the conservative management of dental caries (31).

In this case, conservative partial pulpotomy was used instead of cervical pulpotomy in permanent open apex teeth. Additionally, in this case, Biodentine was successfully applied for partial pulpotomy and could provoke the formation of a more continuous mineralized dentinal bridge with a low-level pulp response compared to calcium hydroxide (32). This material is more consistent with the conservative concept of the present study in comparison with calcium hydroxide. According to our knowledge, this is the first case report using Biodentine in an AI case.

### Conclusions

Children and adolescents with AI have several oral problems. Management of dental conflicts in these children is possible with non-invasive methods. The use of innovative conservative dental treatment methods could provide appropriate clinical results for patients and establish relaxation during treatment (Figure 7).

### Authors' Contribution

LE and HE contributed in case treatment, KHS contributed in manuscript preparation.

### Conflict of Interest Disclosures

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

### Ethical Statement

Informed consent was obtained from the patient's parents for publication of the report.

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