

Facial Prosthesis Care & Use

- Your Facial Prosthesis is made of silicone rubber and has a clear polyurethane sheet attached as a backing so the edges can remain as thin and strong as possible. Because the surface is porous it can absorb dirt and stain and will darken over time due to this as well as a process called greening. Greening is caused by exposure to UV light. Therefore it is best to cover up when in the sun. You may also use a water soluble sunscreen on your prosthesis to protect it and prolong its life when you are in the sun.
- It is vitally important that you do not permit the adhesive to get on the outer surface of your prosthesis as this will attract dirt. It is also important that you remove the adhesive daily, making sure you clean it so that the polyurethane backing is shiny and clean. You may use your fingernail or a blunt instrument to gently scrape off any adhesive residue that begins to build up and that the Telesis Super Solv did not remove.
- At some point your Facial Prosthesis will need to be replaced. For adhesive retained prostheses this will be about every year. For Implant retained prosthesis it will be about every 1-3 years. The adhesive is harder on the prosthesis, thus the increased need for replacement. Reasons for replacement include; darkening of the color, tearing of the thin margins, peeling off of the backing, or tissue changes resulting in poor fit of the margins. When its time for replacement, if you call our office, a new prosthesis will be pressed out of your mold and we will get you in for a coloring and delivery appointment, unless the tissues have changed in which case we will need to start over with a new impression and sculpture.
- With an adhesive retained prosthesis you can do most activities, however, be aware that for strenuous activities the prosthesis can become dislodged and also sweat can make the adhesive let go. It is best to remove the prosthesis before beginning the activity. Swimming with the prosthesis is not advice because the adhesive will let go and the prosthesis WILL sink. Also of consideration is that the chlorine in a chlorinated pool can damage the color over time. Certainly an implant retained prosthesis can tolerate more strenuous activities and remain in place with better certainty.
- Store your prosthesis in some type of container at night. Placing it on your nightstand can be risky if you have a dog. They can smell your scent on the prosthesis, and love to steal facial prostheses off the nightstand and eat them. Many a nose and ear have been chewed up by playful pets.
- Following delivery of your new prosthesis you should not scratch or rub the surface until it has had 24 hours for the colors to fully dry. You will also not clean the adhesive off the back that first night. You may clean it the next morning. After the 24 hour period, nothing will hurt nor remove your coloration.

Purchasing Products

The products I recommend are purchased through **Premiere Products Inc.** at **800-346-4774**

You will need:

- Top Guard (optional): 1 bottle will last a long time
- Telesis 5 Silicone Adhesive: 2-4 bottles at a time
Store unopened bottles in the refrigerator to preserve them until ready to use.
- Telesis Super Solv: 4-6 bottles at a time

Placing Your Prosthesis

1. Clean your face and dry well.
2. If you use the Top Guard tissue primer, place it on the skin where the prosthesis fits.
3. Paint the Telesis 5 Adhesive on the prosthesis. Paint it on the margins that touch the skin and be certain you do not get any on the outside of the prosthesis, nor on your fingers, as they may touch the prosthesis and get adhesive on the outside.
ALWAYS PAINT ADHESIVE ON FROM INSIDE OUT! NEVER PAINT PARALLEL TO MARGINS AS IT WILL GET ADHESIVE ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE PROSTHESIS.
4. There is no rush to place the prosthesis. The adhesive will not dry out. Place the prosthesis

making sure all margins fit snug and to the tissue contours properly. The adhesive will not let you slide the prosthesis over if you miss your mark. Simply pull it away and reposition.

5. Press the margins firmly to insure tight fit.

Note: Every prosthesis has a margin that comes loose periodically during the day. You will learn which one it is and develop a habit of from time to time tapping this margin to press it back down, as you might push your glasses back up on your nose. Because every prosthesis is different, as is the quality of the skin it is fitting to, as well as some people have much more mobile and animated tissue and facial expressions, it may be necessary to reapply the adhesive at some point during the day.

Cleaning Your Prosthesis

1. Remove by peeling the skin away from the prosthesis as you also peel the prosthesis off the skin.
2. Spray the Telesis Super Solv on the prosthesis and allow it a minute to emulsify the adhesive then wipe clean with a gauze, washcloth, paper towel, or however you wish.
3. Rinse and wash the Super Solv residue off the prosthesis with soap and water. Any soap will do. You do not want to leave residue on prosthesis or the next morning the adhesive will not stick to the prosthesis very well.
4. You may use the Super Solv on your skin to help remove the adhesive from your skin. Spray some on a tissue, paper towel, wash cloth or gauze and clean your skin, then clean with soap and water.
5. You may clean the outside of the prosthesis with Super Solv, Alcohol, Acetone, or soap and water. With the technique I use, the colors will remain stable. At least once a week, if not more often, give outside a good scrubbing to keep dirt and adhesive build up off prosthesis.
6. Store prosthesis in container until the next morning.

*For questions, please call us at 770.934.2339
or email us at jamesadavisjrDMD@gmail.com*
