

Micro Judgement: Being able to discern an ideal prep



Tooth #9 had a small carious lesion that radiographically extended just to the DEJ. Is the outline form of the class III preparation ideal? If not what is incorrect?

Short Answer:

The incisal wall is incisal to the contact area.

Explanation:

The incisal wall of an “ideal” class III preparation should not be situated more incisally than the contact area. To do so risks weakening the incisal angle making it more prone to fracture (resistance form). This situation also extends the cavity outline away from the likely site of a caries lesion, which would be just cervical to the contact area.

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