

# **Assessment of All-Ceramic Cantilever Bridges with Different Connector Dimensions**

*Thesis*

*Submitted to the Faculty of Oral and Dental  
Medicine, Cairo-University, in partial fulfillment  
of the requirements for Doctor's Degree in Fixed  
Prosthodontics*

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**2012**

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

”قال رب اشرح لى صدرى، و يسر  
لى امرى، و احلل عقدة من لسانى،  
يفقهوا قولى“

صدق الله العظيم

سورة طه (اية 24-28)

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*First of all, I feel thankful to Allah for giving me the guidance and internal support in all my life and in every step that I made until this study was completed.*

*I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. Hesham Katamish Professor of Fixed Prosthodontics, Dean of the Faculty of Oral and Dental Medicine, Cairo University, for his valuable ideas, stimulating discussions, enlightening guidance, and keen supervision that he has kindly given me throughout the research program, which was instrumental in achieving the completion of this study.*

*I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and deep gratitude to Dr. Jylan El-Guindy Assistant Professor of Fixed Prosthodontics, Faculty of Oral and Dental Medicine, Cairo University, for her unforgettable help, advice, wise guidance, and fruitful assistance during the course of this research.*

*Also I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. Mohamed Hassanein for his valuable contribution in preparation of the samples.*

*Last but not least, I would like to thank all my colleges in Fixed Prosthodontics department in MSA University for their valuable support throughout the research program.*

I could never be grateful enough to *my wife*, for standing beside me all over the way and for being the reason of each and every step forward in my life, *my children*, to whom I promised a better tomorrow, *my father* who taught me everything in my whole life, and last but not least *my mother* who supported me through the whole work and get worried till it came out to light finally.

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Cantilever fixed partial dentures can be used to replace molars when there is no distal abutment present. When used judiciously, it is possible to avoid the insertion of a unilateral removable partial denture. Most commonly, this type of fixed partial denture is used to replace a first molar, although occasionally it is used to replace a second molar to prevent super-eruption of opposing teeth.

When the pontic is loaded occlusally, the adjacent abutment tends to act as a fulcrum, with a lifting tendency on the farthest retainer. To minimize the leverage effect, the pontic should be kept as small as possible, more nearly representing a premolar than a molar. There should be light occlusal contact with absolutely no contact in any excursion. The pontic should possess maximum occluso-gingival height to ensure a rigid prosthesis.

A posterior cantilever pontic places maximum demands on the retentive capacity of the retainer. Its use, therefore, should be reserved for those situations in which there is adequate clinical crown length on the abutment teeth to permit preparations of maximum length and retention.

The use of all-ceramic materials for fixed restorations in dentistry has become more and more important for patients and clinicians in the last decades.

Since the first feldspathic crown was inserted in 1886<sup>1</sup>, recent progress in material technology and manufacturing procedures has extended the indications for these materials.

In 1990 the IPS Empress system (Ivoclar Vivadent) was introduced to the dental community and became a popular all-ceramic system for pressed glass-ceramic inlay, onlay, and veneer restorations. To increase the