IDS BALL END CLASP – A NEW CLINICAL TECHNIQUE
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ABSTRACT
There are various clasps which are used for providing retention to the removable appliances. In cases of additional retention secondary clasps are incorporated in the design. In this article an IDS ball end clasp has been suggested which is very simple to fabricate and repair.

Keywords: Clasp; IDS ball end Clasp; Retention

Introduction
Clasps are used to retain the active plates used for orthodontic tooth movement. Various number of clasp designs have been suggested. All these clasps have its own advantages. Sometimes additional retention is even required, in such cases the additional retention is provided by secondary clasps like triangular clasp and ball end clasp. This article suggests a modification of ball end clasp called IDS ball end clasp used for retention.

Fabrication
The IDS ball end clasp is fabricated with following armamentarium (Figure 1).

a) 21/22 gauge stainless steel round orthodontic wire of 4-5 cm length
b) Light cure bonding agent
c) Flow able light curable composite
d) Applicator tip

First of all cut the stainless steel round orthodontic wire of 4-5cm of length, then roughen the tip of the wire with a sand paper or with a sand blaster for better attachment of composite. On the roughened tip surface apply light cure bonding agent with the help of applicator tip and cure with light cure machine for 15 sec. After the curing apply the light cure flowable composite on the tip of the wire and make it to a shape of a ball with the help of that applicator tip (Figure 2). Then cure it with a light cure machine. Now the ball end clasp can be used for multiple number of applications in orthodontic treatment (Figure 3,4).

Advantages: IDS Ball end clasps are easily recognizable because they consist of a wire with a small composite ball at its tip. The operator can fabricate easily near chair side. It can be easily repairable if it is broken or damaged. No need of any specialized instrument for the fabrication of this clasp. The property of the wire will be maintained after its fabrication. Ball end clasp is the only clasp which can be used with fixed orthodontic appliances.

Conclusion
In conclusion, IDS Ball end clasps are a new addition to orthodontic appliances.

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Figure 1. Armamentarium, Figure 2-4. Clasp