Molar Incisor Hypomineralisation (MIH)

MI Treatment solutions from GC
Molar Incisor Hypomineralisation (MIH)

A global burden concerning one in seven children\(^1,2\)

MIH is a common developmental condition affecting primarily one or more first permanent molars. The central incisors may be affected as well, but this usually occurs to a lesser extent. Hypomineralisation of the second deciduous molars (HSPM) or canines may also occur.\(^3\) Children with HSPM are up to five times more likely to develop MIH in the permanent dentition. Great variations in severity exist, ranging from mild opacities to posteruptive enamel breakdown.

Currently, the aetiology of MIH is still unknown. Some correlations with prenatal, perinatal and postnatal illness, exposure to antibiotics or chemicals such as dioxin, bisphenol A and polychlorinated biphenyl have been described, but sufficient evidence is still lacking.

Clinical appearance

- Demarcated opacities, ranging from creamy white to yellow, brown discolouration
- Defective enamel has normal thickness (unless posteruptive breakdown has occurred)
- Lesions may occur asymmetrically
- When a first molar is severely affected, there is an increased chance that the contralateral molar is also affected
- Lesions of central incisors are usually milder, but they can sometimes be unsightly

Symptoms

- Hypersensitivity and decreased response to local anaesthesia
- Rapid caries progression
- Posteruptive breakdown

Clinical management of MIH is challenging due to:

- Hypersensitivity and rapid development of dental caries in affected teeth
- Difficulty in achieving anaesthesia
- Limited cooperation of the young child
- Repeated marginal breakdown of restorations
- Often, an increased number of dental visits is required

Children with MIH often develop dental anxiety as a result of invasive and even painful dental experiences at a young age
Initial therapeutic intervention

Empowering your patient is the first step

- The teeth should be brushed twice a day with a toothpaste containing at least 1000 ppm fluoride. Fluoride content should be age-appropriate; in older patients higher levels of fluoride may be desirable.
- Using identification tools such as GC Tri Plaque ID Gel can help to identify cariogenic plaque, motivate patients and give them the opportunity to optimise their brushing technique
- Frequent intake of sugar and acidic food should be avoided

Strengthen and desensitise with GC Tooth Mousse, GC MI Paste Plus and MI Varnish

Topical treatments are useful to strengthen teeth and decrease sensitivity in MIH. The application of Recaldent (CPP-ACP), containing high levels of bio-available calcium and phosphate, has been shown to be effective in this case.4,5

**Tooth Mousse** (without fluoride)/**MI Paste Plus** (900 ppm fluoride)
- topical creme with Recaldent (CPP-ACP) for daily at home application
- apply after brushing, before bedtime; do not rinse
- provides extra protection for the teeth
- neutralises acidic challenges

**Tooth Mousse or MI Paste Plus?**

Tooth Mousse and MI Paste Plus can be used for the same indications. Tooth Mousse is recommended below the age of 6 to avoid the risk of fluorosis and in cases where extra fluoride supplementation is not needed or desired. For overnight application, Tooth Mousse is recommended until the age of 12. MI Paste Plus can be used above that age.

**MI Varnish** (22600 ppm fluoride)
- varnish with Recaldent (CPP-ACP) for quarterly in office application
- apply after prophylactic cleaning
- seals the dental tubules tightly; desensitises teeth and leaves a film of varnish on the surface

Prior to use, carefully read the instructions for use.
Protect surfaces with **GC Fuji TRIAGE**

**Fuji TRIAGE**, a fluid glass ionomer, will help to protect the surface against caries formation and hypersensitivity

- Fuji TRIAGE can bond chemically in a moist environment
- Teeth can be protected even before they are fully erupted
- The setting of Fuji TRIAGE, pink shade can be accelerated with the dental curing light

**Early protection is important to avoid complications**

- Fast and easy application; perfect for first-line treatment
- Helps to postpone or even avoid more invasive treatment options
- Since the procedure is generally well tolerated by children, the risk of developing dental anxiety is reduced
Restorative treatment

Minimally Invasive restorations with **EQUIA Forte**

**Long-term restorations**

- The glass hybrid EQUIA Forte is suitable as a long-term, minimally invasive restorative. Moreover, its quick bulk placement is a huge advantage in young, anxious patients.
- The chemical adhesion and moisture tolerance of EQUIA Forte offer a great advantage since adhesion to hypomineralised enamel is challenging.
- In case teeth are difficult to anaesthetise, the Atraumatic Restorative Treatment (ART) approach can be used; caries is manually excavated before application of EQUIA Forte.⁶
- A composite can be placed when the lesions are very well demarcated and do not require too much additional removal of tooth tissue.

**Interim therapeutic restorations**

- In some cases of severe MIH, a definitive restoration cannot be placed immediately due to the young age. However, early treatment is necessary to stop and reverse the caries process.
- Glass ionomers or stainless steel crowns, luted with a glass ionomer cement, can then be indicated in awaiting of a definitive treatment, such as a composite or indirect restoration.

**Orthodontic considerations**

In certain orthodontic conditions, it might be indicated to extract severely affected permanent first molars. The ideal moment is when the furcation of the second molar starts to calcify, usually around the age of 8.5-9 years. Extracting at that moment favours spontaneous migration of the second molar; results are usually better in the upper arch than in the lower arch.
Recall

Follow-up regimen adjusted to response to treatment

The recall frequency is usually higher for patients with MIH, due to the higher caries susceptibility. Several points have to be kept in mind:

- Restorations need to be controlled regularly, as adhesion to hypomineralised enamel is challenging
- It is important to maintain the patient’s compliance to home treatment and to evaluate its effects regularly
- Oral hygiene (with Tri Plaque ID Gel) and dietary habits should be regularly evaluated
- Interim therapeutic restorations need to be monitored and replaced when the circumstances have become appropriate for definitive treatment

An important part of the preventive strategy is the home care. It is crucial to motivate and educate the child/caregiver because they are the ones who will have to implement good oral hygiene habits and healthy dietary intake.

The Dentonauts program further puts the emphasize on making every dental visit a positive experience for the child. This is important to ensure the compliance in the long term and to ensure life-long, healthy functioning.
Minimum Intervention Treatment Plan for MIH

A framework for patient-centred treatment

It is essential to adapt the treatment of MIH to the individual patient’s conditions. The schedule below will make it easier to select the necessary interventions. It also shows which products from GC are especially suited for each individualised treatment plan.

**IDENTIFY**
- All cases
  - Tri Plaque ID Gel
    - Identify oral hygiene level
- Post-eruptive breakdown
- Small/moderate lesions
- Extraction orthodontically favourable?
- Bifurcation of roots second molar visible on X-ray?
- Extraction

**PREVENT**
- In office
  - Fuji Triage
  - MI Varnish
- At home
  - Dietary information
  - Fluoridated toothpaste
  - Tooth Mousse/MI Paste Plus

**RESTORE**
- EQUIA Forte
- Composite
- Glass ionomer
- Stainless steel crown

**RECALL**


Check out the webinar: „Hypomineralised enamel (MIH) coming to a child near you!“ by Prof. David Manton, Melbourne Dental School, Australia.

GC Tri Plaque ID Gel, GC Tooth Mousse, GC MI Paste Plus, MI Varnish, GC Fuji Triage and EQUIA Forte are trademarks from GC.