

## Vital Pulp Therapy Using Bioceramic Materials

Prof. Sun Il Kim

Root canal treatment (RCT) is one of the most critical procedures in dentistry, closely related to pain management. However, many dentists tend to avoid it due to its relatively low reimbursement compared to the effort required and the challenge of treating an area that is not directly visible. Perhaps for this reason, there has been a growing interest in procedures such as partial pulpotomy using bioceramic materials. However, if we attempt to avoid pulp-related diagnosis and treatment too much, we may eventually face even greater challenges.

The American cardiologist Robert Eliot once said, "If you can't avoid it, enjoy it." However, since most dentists, including myself, do not find it easy to "enjoy" RCT, this lecture will explore cases where vital pulp therapy can be used to preserve pulp vitality and potentially prevent the need for RCT. The key point to remember is that vital pulp therapy is a procedure chosen to preserve pulp vitality, not merely to avoid RCT. In some cases, endodontic treatment is inevitable, and we will also discuss when it is necessary to face it directly.

Through this lecture, I hope to provide guidance on how to properly diagnose deep caries and establish an appropriate treatment plan, ultimately helping clinicians make better decisions for pulp preservation.

### Profile

- \* DDS, Yonsei University College of Dentistry
- \* M.S.D, Yonsei University
- \* Ph.D, Yonsei University
- \* KDA Management Policy Committee
- \* Present, Associate Professor, Yonsei University College of Dentistry, Department of Conservative Dentistry