

TOP REASONS TO USE AN ALGINATE SUBSTITUTE



1.

Alginate substitute materials can be poured when convenient for the office schedule.

One of the biggest challenges with alginate diagnostic impressions is that the material is most accurate immediately after removal from the mouth. The longer the delay between taking the impression and pouring it up, the less accurate the stone model. We try and preserve the accuracy by wrapping the alginate impression in a moist paper towel, which is messy and will still dry out, just more slowly. Another alternative is to store the impression in humidity, which requires a plastic container and lots of counter space. Alginate substitute materials like xantasil are stable in a dry environment and can be set in a lab pan until the office team has time to pour the model.

2.

Alginate substitute impressions can be poured multiple times with consistent accuracy.

Often we want or need multiple stone models for the same patient and want to be able to accomplish this without putting the patient through multiple sets of impressions. Alginate is at its best the first pour and although some alginates can be poured a second time, the model accuracy diminishes. The other challenge can be that the alginate impression itself is damaged when the first model is separated and cannot be poured again. Alginate substitute impressions can be poured over and over and produce many copies of the same model with consistent accuracy.

3.

Alginate substitute impressions are stable over time.

There are times in every practice where a stone model breaks unexpectedly or we decide we need a duplicate model days or weeks after the original models have been poured. Xantasil impressions are stable for an extended period of time after they are taken. In our office, we save the impressions in a lab pan or the patient's model box. If we break a model or decide we need a duplicate, the impression can simply be taken again.



4.

Consistent accuracy without measuring and weighing.

Alginate can be a highly accurate material when used following the guidelines for exact quantities of water and powder. The challenge is that often the 2 ingredients aren't used in the correct proportions. This not only alters the set time but also diminishes the accuracy of the impression. Alginate substitute materials do not require mixing powder and water. There is some measuring, but no weighing and no mixing in a bowl. This means consistent accuracy with ease every time.

5.

One material with multiple clinical uses.

Alginate substitute materials can be used for a variety of clinical situations above and beyond diagnostic impressions. Xantasil impressions can be used to fabricate night guards, occlusal appliances, orthodontic retainers, sports guards, and bleaching trays. The material can also be used to take a matrix impression for provisional fabrication and the opposing model for restorative procedures.

Please contact your local Heraeus Kulzer Australia Distributor Partners for further information on Xantasil.