

Virtual VPS Impression Material (Project 02-07) (01/03)

Virtual is a poly(vinyl siloxane) impression material that, according to its manufacturer, features excellent wettability, tear strength and dimensional stability. In addition it is claimed that its setting is heat-activated, which should allow clinicians to use as much or as little of its working time as needed and then be assured of a rapid intraoral set. As for most currently-marketed impression materials, Virtual is available in cartridges that are used in an automix gun dispenser. Virtual is available in five viscosities (Putty, Heavy Body, Monophase, Light Body, Extra-Light Body) as well as in a bite registration form. All except the bite registration material are sold in regular-set and fast-set versions. The product's beige and blue colors are purported to enhance readability. Virtual is sold in a wide variety of packaging forms. In this evaluation, the Heavy/Light Introductory Package was evaluated. Both regular-set and fast-set versions were tested in the laboratory and used by clinical evaluators.



Manufacturer:

Ivoclar Vivadent
175 Pineview Drive
Amherst, NY 14228
(800) 533-6825
(716) 691-0010
(716) 691-2285 FAX
www.ivoclarvivadent.us.com

Suggested Retail Price:

\$199.00 Virtual Heavy/Light Introductory Package, Regular-Set (item number 562865) contains:
-four 50-mL cartridges, (2 of Heavy Body, 1 of Light-Body, and 1 of Extra-Light Body)
-two automix gun dispensers
-one 10-mL bottle of Tray Adhesive
-accessories
It is also available in a Fast-Set version (item number 562866)

Government Price:

\$92.60 Virtual Heavy/Light Introductory Package, Regular-Set
(item number and contents as listed above)

ADVANTAGES:

- + Handling characteristics were rated favorably by users.
- + Working times are long enough to permit unhurried mixing and use.
- + Setting times are appropriate and short enough to enhance patient comfort.
- + Detail reproduction and dimensional change meet requirements of pertinent standards.
- + Contrasting colors facilitate reading critical areas of impression.
- + Is shipped with two automix gun dispensers, something greatly appreciated by our clinical evaluators.
- + Acceptable odor and taste.
- + Available in five viscosities and two setting times.
- + Included graphics instruction cards were extremely well done and users found them very helpful.
- + Comes with tray adhesive.
- + Considerably less expensive than several other popular and comparable impression materials.
- + Lot number, expiration date, and recommended storage conditions are listed on product components.
- + Shipped with a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

DISADVANTAGES:

- Transparency of light-body material can make it difficult to read.
- Material tends to slump a bit after placement.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

Virtual was very well-received by our clinical users who found it easy to mix and place. It had a working time that enabled them to use it without undue hurrying, and a setting time that was acceptably short. The material's colors make it easier to read critical areas of impressions as the manufacturer claims, although the light-body material can be a bit difficult because of its high degree of translucency. Virtual performed well in the laboratory and met necessary requirements for this type of impression material. Unlike some other products, Virtual is shipped with tray adhesive and **two** gun dispensers. The latter makes it possible for the dentist and assistant to mix different viscosities simultaneously. Virtual is sold in a variety of viscosities as well as two setting times. The price of refill material is considerably less than that of several of its competitors. **Virtual VPS Impression Material** is rated **Recommended** for use by the federal dental services.