



Editors' Choice
THE DENTAL ADVISOR
www.dentaladvisor.com

RATINGS:
Excellent + + + + +
Very Good + + + +
Good + + +

Imprint 4

3M ESPE

(800) 634-2249
www.3mespe.com

Description

Imprint 4 impression materials are vinyl polysiloxane (VPS) materials indicated for all standard impression techniques. They are 3M ESPE's newest generation of addition-cured silicones reported to provide "super quick" setting characteristics and significantly improved hydrophilicity. **Imprint 4** materials are formulated to have superior hydrophilic properties for exceptional detail and accelerated setting due to an "active self-warming" chemical reaction. The **Imprint 4** line includes tray and wash materials available in regular and *Super Quick* set with a peppermint flavor. *Super Quick* setting materials are indicated for one- or two-unit impressions. Viscosities include putty, heavy, and light in 5:1 foil packages for *Pentamix* devices and 50 mL automix cartridges for use with dispensing guns.

Imprint 4	Working Time	Setting Time
Regular Set (Tray/Wash)	2:00	2:00
Regular Set (Putty)	1:30	2:30
Super Quick Set (Tray/Wash)	1:15	1:15

Imprint 4 was evaluated by 36 consultants in 521 uses. This impression material earned a 97% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

Cartridge refill (tray and wash)	\$110.00
<i>Penta</i> refill (tray and wash)	\$331.32



Consultants' Comments

"Good material - better than most VPS materials I have used in the past."

"Quick setting time - patients loved how fast it set."

"I never had a retake with this material in spite of some difficult subgingival preparations."

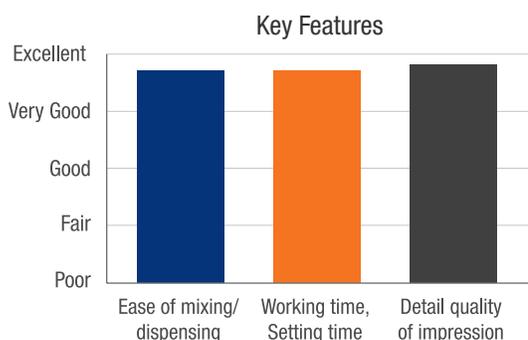
"Great for implants."

"Perfect blending of putty and wash materials."

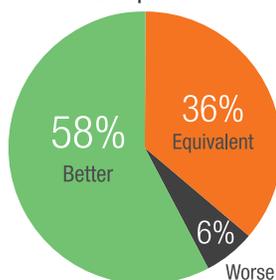
"Bright contrasting colors of syringe and tray materials."

"Some chemical taste comes through the mint flavoring."

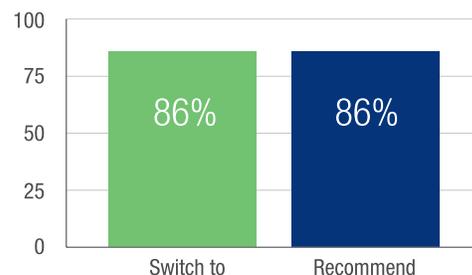
"Blue color leaves a residue on gloves and patients' lips."



Imprint 4 compared to similar products:



Percentage of consultants who would:



Clinical Observations

Instructions/Packaging

Imprint 4 is packaged in automix standard cartridges and *Pentamix* cartridges. Consultants appreciated the option for the tray material. Working and setting times should be printed on the cartridges.

Mixing/Dispensing

Dental assistants found that the heavy tray material was easy to extrude with little hand strength required. *Penta* putty mixed quickly and consistently with a *Pentamix* machine. The syringe material flowed smoothly around the prepared teeth.

Viscosity

The light body material evaluated has excellent flow around the teeth. Some consultants found it to be slightly too runny when working on maxillary teeth. The tray material also had more flow than some other brands of heavy-body material.

Working/Setting times

For dentists who prefer a very fast setting impression material, **Imprint 4** offers one of the shortest intraoral setting times. The fast setting time of the *Super Quick* material was one of the favorite features of **Imprint 4**. The snap set was unique among impression materials.

Detail quality of impression

Imprint 4 produced crisp detail in the margins of impressions. Its hydrophilic nature contributed to accurate impressions in subgingival areas. Heavy/light colors offered good contrast and were easy to read. Labs using CAD/CAM technology had no trouble scanning these impressions.



Summary

Imprint 4 is an excellent PVS impression material. Fifty-eight percent of consultants rated **Imprint 4** better than other impression materials they had used and 36% rated it equivalent. Eighty-six percent would switch to **Imprint 4** and would recommend it to a colleague.