

Sumita Basu

Mitra

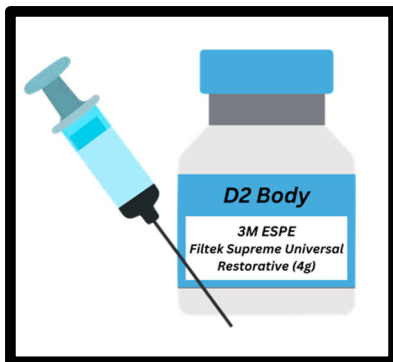
(b. February 27, 1949)

Chemist

Indian American

Place of Birth: India

Invention: Filtek Supreme Universal Restorative



Lorrina Jimenez-Vinoya (SFSU 2025)

Sumita grew up in India where her family were refugees during the 1947 Partition. When she chose to study in the United States, relatives objected because few women pursued science or traveled alone. Her mother's advice was to "stand up tall, stay positive." Sumita pushed forward to enter a male-dominant field. After earning her chemistry degree, she joined 3M and invented Filtek Supreme Universal Restorative, the first dental filling material with nanoparticles, making fillings stronger and more natural-looking. Sumita became a Fellow of the National Academy of Engineering and was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.