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Treatment of patients with congenitally missing lateral incisors: An interdisciplinary task

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Congenitally missing teeth are frequently presented to the dentist. Interdisciplinary approach may be needed for the proper treatment plan. The available treatment modalities to replace congenitally missing teeth include prosthodontic fixed and removable prostheses, resin bonded retainers, orthodontic movement of maxillary canine to the lateral incisor site and single tooth implants. Dental implants offer a promising treatment option for placement of congenitally missing teeth. Interdisciplinary approach may be needed in these cases. The aim of this clinical presentation is replacement of uni/bilaterally congenitally missing maxillary lateral incisors with dental implants.

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Dental ergonomics and magnification

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Repetitive strain injuries and pain experienced by dentists and dental hygienists are a common occurrence. In a study by Rucker and Sunnell (2000), 34% of dentists attribute their pain entirely to their work in dentistry, and another 54% attributed their pain at least partially to their work in dentistry. Other studies indicate that Hygienists are at least as vulnerable to developing chronic pain from their work. There is some evidence to support that developing and maintaining good working posture can reduce the risk of developing pain and musculoskeletal disorders. The challenge is to have good posture and to be able to perform the many tasks that are unique to dentistry. Knowledge and experience is readily available on how to sit and to function properly at a desk or other office setting. Little is taught on how to deliver dental services while maintaining good posture. This presentation will discuss tips and techniques that will allow the dental practitioner to perform optimally and reduce the risk of musculoskeletal disorders. By operating in balance, dental practitioners, can not only work more comfortably, but can reduce the risk of chronic pain that may limit their dental career.

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