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Dental photography in daily practice

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Whether they are used for patient communication, consultation with a laboratory or colleague, diagnosis, clinical or legal records, or scientific presentation or publication, images are a much more powerful means of communication in the field of dentistry than the spoken or written word. However, dental photography is lacking set standards that would allow the continuity and reproducibility essential to clinical and scientific documentation. To address this need, this lecture presents guidelines for photographic documentation that will enable practitioners to produce images that faithfully convey clinical data. Precise instructions, including the positions of the patient, assistant and practitioner, camera settings and flash positions, aiming and focal points and the types and positions of required accessories are detailed in text and images and an example of the desired final image is provided. This comprehensive lecture provides clinicians with all the information they need to feel confident in creating effective and compelling dental images.