AESTHETICS IN ORTHODONTICS
L’estetica in Ortognatodontia

MISS LEILA KHAMASHTA-LEDEZMA
BDS (Lond), MJDF.RCS (Eng), MSc (Lond), M.Orth.RCS (Ed), GCAP (KCL)
Senior Specialist Registrar in Orthodontist at Eastman Dental Hospital and Croydon
University Hospital, London, United Kingdom

This work provides an overview of the dental and smile aesthetics parameters used in the assessment and treatment planning of orthodontic patients. Highlighting the importance of the upper incisor position not only in orthognathic patients but also in regular orthodontic patients. The presentation explored the different variables to be considered when assessing the smile and how these can be changed with orthodontic, orthognathic surgery or other treatments.

In addition, the more recent techniques being used to record these assessments, such as video-recording and advantages and future research possibilities this offers were explored. An overview of the modifications that can be introduced to orthodontic treatment to achieve these ideals, limitations often encountered and options that could be considered when it is not possible to attain results with orthodontics alone will be discussed.

With regards to maxillary orthognathic surgery and its relation to predicting the desired smile aesthetics, the presentation focused on the expected soft tissue response and how this would relate to changes in maxillary incisor exposure. Also, taking into account how soft tissue techniques sometimes used by surgeons such as alar base cinch sutures and VY closures can affect the soft tissue response and in turn therefore possibly the predicted outcome.

The Author discussed about aesthetic evaluation and planning to maximize the aesthetic outcome of treatment for orthodontic and orthognathic patients. Adult patients who choose to undergo orthodontic or surgical treatment prefer aesthetic improvement with their functional correction if possible. The issues of patient satisfaction and happiness are very complex because of matters such as patient expectation, self-assessment, and psychological and even psychiatric condition present before and after treatment.

One of the contributing factors in patient satisfaction involves the always subjective evaluation of facial aesthetics.
Facial appearance considered ideal by one individual or group may not be judged so by others. One’s dental and facial appearance is important not only in the role that attractiveness plays to others but also in one’s self concept. Perception of esthetical appearance, particularly of the face, affects mental health and social behaviour, with significant implications for educational and employment opportunities and makes selection.

References