

## Maintaining Smile by Non Invasive Methods : Short Communication

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### ABSTRACT

*Esthetics*, which is derived from the Greek word for “perception”, deals with beauty and the beautiful. It has two dimensions: objective and subjective. Artificial tooth pontic can be used as an esthetic step towards the treatment of pathological migration in patients having poor bone support in the anterior region. As it causes splinting of the mobile teeth along with replacement of space with esthetically pleasing apperence which is readily accepted by the patient.

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KEY WORDS : Chronic Periodontitis, Esthetics, Splinting

### Introduction

*Esthetics*, which is derived from the Greek word for “perception”, deals with beauty and the beautiful. It has two dimensions: objective and subjective.<sup>3</sup> Objective (admirable) beauty is based on consideration of the object itself, implying that the object possesses properties that make it unmistakably praiseworthy. Subjective (enjoyable) beauty is a quality that is value-laden, relative to the tastes of the person contemplating it.<sup>4</sup> Careful technique in dentistry should lend objective esthetics (admirable beauty) to the entire orofacial complex, involving unity, form, structure, balance, color, function, and display of the dentition. On the other hand, the creation of subjective beauty may enhance cosmetic value.<sup>2</sup>

Esthetics plays an important role in periodontal practice in today’s clinical world and is amongst the necessity of any treatment procedure, and also the primary need of the patient apart from relief of the chief

complain.<sup>3</sup>

The Replacement of missing anterior teeth enhances the smile as well as appearance of the patient which is easily appreciated by the patient and the population.<sup>2</sup>

The Replacement can be by Implants, Crowns, Bridges or Cast Partial Dentures amongst this treatment modality is natural and artificial tooth pontic. This article deals with the replacement of anterior teeth by an artificial tooth which helps in enhancement of esthetics and phonetics.<sup>5</sup>

### Case Report

A female patient age 45 yrs attended Dental Wing, Savitri Hospital Jhansi with the chief complaint of bleeding from gums and bad breath on Clinical examination. It was found that patient was having localized chronic periodontitis. A radiographic examination was made for the same (Figs. 1 & 2)

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**Fig. 1**



**Fig. 2**

**Figs. 1 & 2 : Chronic periodontitis with heavy calculus deposit**

A treatment plan was formulated for the patient which included oral hygiene instruction followed by Scaling and root planning. Patient was recalled after one week.(Fig. 3)

As the lower anterior was having grade II mobility, next mode of treatment was splinting the lower anterior. A fiber reinforced composite splint restoration was planned for the same. On examination it was seen that the patient was having spacing due to pathological migration in lower anterior (Fig. 3)

An Acrylic tooth of the shape and shade of mandibular central incisor was selected from the teeth set (Fig. 4) and it was placed in the spacing created due to pathological migration with the help of fiber splint (Hager Werken ) (Fig. 5)

**Discussion**

Periodontitis is one of the commonest diseases

of oral cavity effecting majority of population. Various treatment modalities are available for the treatment of the same.<sup>3</sup> One of the features of Periodontitis is Pathological migration which causes unwanted spaces which if present in the anterior region causes esthetic problems, after the treatment such spaces can be treated orthodontically (by aligning the tooth) or prosthodontically (by crowns or veneers).<sup>5</sup>

As the patient was having tooth mobility modality of orthodontically aligning teeth would not have been possible. Artificial tooth pontic proved to be a novel approach towards cosmetic/esthetic approach for the treatment of spacing present in lower anterior which was appreciated by the patient along with solving the purpose of splinting the mobile tooth along with improvement in phonetics.<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 6)

**Conclusion**

Artificial tooth pontic can be used as an esthetic step towards the treatment of pathological migration in



**Fig. 3 : Post Scaling and Root Planing**



**Fig. 4 :Acrylic Tooth**



**Fig. 5 : Acrylic tooth stabilized with Fiber Reinforced Composite Splint**

patients having poor bone support in the anterior region. As it causes splinting of the mobile teeth along with



**Fig. 6: Post Treatment Smile**

replacement of space with esthetically pleasing appearance which is readily accepted by the patient. This modality is non invasive and economic solution to the patients with low socioeconomic status who demand esthetics, as beauty is deserved by all.

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