

Periodontal Soft Tissue Sculpturing and Use of Interim Appliance for Rehabilitation of Anterior Edentulousness: Case Report

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Abstract : Purpose: Fixed partial dentures (FPDs) must fulfill functional requirements such as phonetics, chewing efficiency and esthetics especially in the anterior region. A convex type tissue surface is usually recommended for pontics of FPDs. That pontic design also provides suitable oral hygiene and ease of cleaning. However, high esthetic requirements and correct emergence profile are not always achievable because of the convex shape of adjacent soft tissues. Therefore, the ovate type pontic which fulfills the high esthetic demands of the patients may be a good alternative to the modified ridge lap pontic design. Clinical Report: A female patient referred with the complaint of anterior upper edentulousness. In the oral examination it was determined that teeth 11, 12, 21, 22 were deficient. A thick and convex gingival tissue that may cause aesthetic problems was also observed.. Periodontal augmentation surgery was performed to ensure proper papillary configuration and gingival contour. An interim removable partial denture (IRPD) which applied pressure to operated gingival tissues was fabricated postoperatively. The IRPD was used for 4 weeks and after completion of tissue sculpting, the permanent FPD with an ovate pontic was fabricated and cemented. After a follow-up period of 6 months, not any esthetical and hygienic problem was detected and the patient was satisfied with her prosthesis. Conclusion: It was concluded that shaping of gingival contours with IRPD and use of a FPD with ovate pontic fulfills all esthetic and hygienic requirements.

Keywords : interim appliance, ovate pontic, tissue sculpturing, fixed partial denture

Conference Title : ICODS 2015 : International Conference on Oral and Dental Sciences

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : May 25-26, 2015