

American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics

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CONTENTS

COVER

On the cover: In New Zealand, as in the United States, orthodontic treatment is largely fee-for-service. Patients with adequate resources, sometimes including private insurance, can obtain the esthetic and functional benefits of orthodontic treatment; patients who cannot afford treatment often go without. Orthodontists who want to help might provide undercompensated or uncompensated care on their own, or they might choose to volunteer with an orthodontic community initiative. Researchers at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, interviewed 11 orthodontists who volunteer with Wish for a Smile in major cities and towns across New Zealand. Why do they volunteer? Is it out of a sense of professional responsibility, a feeling of social responsibility, or for personal or altruistic reasons? And what are the high and low points associated with this voluntary work? The smiling patient on the cover is Sophia Jurado. She was treated orthodontically by Dr Nelson Ruiz, Cary, NC.

READERS' FORUM

- Rapid maxillary expansion to treat halitosis in children: An alternative approach?** 455
Paulo Henrique Couto Souza, Rafaela S. Melzer, Thiago M. Meira, and Orlando Motohiro Tanaka, Curitiba, Brazil
- Authors' response** 455
Turkan Sezen Erhamza and Ferabi Erhan Ozdiler, Kirikkale and Ankara, Turkey
- Low-level laser therapy increases interleukin-1 β in gingival crevicular fluid and enhances the rate of orthodontic tooth movement** 456
Gaetano Isola, Sebastiano Ferlito, and Ernesto Rapisarda, Catania, Italy
- Authors' response** 457
Alissa Maria Varella, Ameet V. Revankar, and Anand K. Patil, Dharwad, Karnataka, India
- Erratum** 457
- Erratum** 458
- Erratum** 458

RESIDENTS' JOURNAL REVIEW

- Residents' journal review** 459
Dan Grauer, Associate Editor for Residents' Journal Review, Santa Monica, Calif



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ETHICS IN ORTHODONTICS

- Is the end in sight?** 461
Peter M. Greco, Associate Editor for Ethics in Orthodontics, Philadelphia, Pa

RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

- Comparative assessment of plaque removal and motivation between a manual toothbrush and an interactive power toothbrush in adolescents with fixed orthodontic appliances: A single-center, examiner-blind randomized controlled trial** 462
Christina Erbe, Violetta Klees, Fabienne Braunbeck, Priscila Ferrari-Peron, Renzo A. Ccahuana-Vasquez, Hans Timm, Julie Grender, Pamela Cunningham, Ralf Adam, and Heinrich Wehrbein, Mainz and Kronberg, Germany, and Mason, Ohio

ORIGINAL ARTICLES



- Craniofacial growth spurt in Class I subjects** 473
Mona A. Montasser, Mansoura, Egypt



- The changes of self-esteem, sensitivity to criticism, and social appearance anxiety in orthognathic surgery patients: A controlled study** 482
Mukerrem Ozge Agırnaslıgil, Nisa Gul Amuk, Erdem Kılıc, Nukhet Kutuk, Ahmet Emin Demırbas, and Alper Alkan, Kayseri and Istanbul, Turkey

- Brazilian adolescents' perception of the orthodontic appliance: A qualitative study** 490
Anderson Barbosa de Almeida, Isabel Cristina Gonçalves Leite, and Gırlene Alves da Silva, Juiz de Fora, Brazil

- Changes in sleep and airway variables in patients with obstructive sleep apnea after mandibular advancement splint treatment** 498
Whitney R. Mostafiz, David W. Carley, Maria Grace C. Viana, Serina Ma, Oyku Dalci, M. Ali Darendeliler, Carla A. Evans, Budi Kusnoto, Ahmed Masoud, and Maria Therese S. Galang-Boquiren, Chicago, Ill, New York, NY, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

- Hard- and soft-tissue symmetry comparison in patients with Class III malocclusion** 509
Gökhan Serhat Duran, Furkan Dındarođlu, and Pınar Kutlu, Ankara and İzmir, Turkey



- Comparison of clinical bond failure rates and bonding times between two adhesive precoated bracket systems** 523
Meriç Tümođlu and Atılım Akkurt, Diyarbakir, Turkey

- Association of clinical variables and polymorphisms in *RANKL*, *RANK*, and *OPG* genes with external apical root resorption** 529
Bruno Borges de Castilhos, Cleber Machado de Souza, Maria Luiza S. Simas Netta Fontana, Fabiano Alvim Pereira, Orlando Motohiro Tanaka, and Paula Cristina Trevilatto, Curitiba, Joinville, and Lagarto, Brazil



- Finite element analysis of the dental pulp under orthodontic forces** 543
Radu-Andrei Moga, Raluca Cosgarea, Stefan Marius Buru, and Cosmin Gruia Chiorean, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and Marburg, Germany

CONTENTS *continued*

- Some orthodontists' experiences of volunteering for a community orthodontic initiative** 552
Lee A. Smith, Hannah Jack, Peter Fowler, Joseph Antoun, Keely Blanch, and Lyndie Foster Page, Dunedin, New Zealand

CASE REPORTS

- A comprehensive treatment approach for idiopathic condylar resorption and anterior open bite with 3D virtual surgical planning and self-ligated customized lingual appliance** 560
Farhana Rahman, Ahmet Arif Celebi, Patrick J. Louis, and Chung How Kau, Birmingham, Ala
- Treatment of a severe Class II Division 1 malocclusion combined with surgical miniscrew anchorage** 572
Poonsak Pisek, Montian Manosudprasit, Tasanee Wangsrimongkol, Chutimaporn Keinprasit, and Raweewan Wongpetch, Khon Kaen, Thailand

CLINICIAN'S CORNER



- A novel 3D-printed computer-assisted piezocision guide for surgically facilitated orthodontics** 584
Hsin-Yu Hou, Chung-Hsing Li, Min-Chia Chen, Pei-Yi Lin, Wei-Chung Liu, Yi-Wen Cathy Tsai, and Ren-Yeong Huang, Taipei, Taiwan

TECHNO BYTES

- Evaluation of fit for 3D-printed retainers compared with thermoform retainers** 592
David Cole, Sompop Bencharit, Caroline K. Carrico, Andrew Arias, and Eser Tüfekçi, Richmond, Va

LITIGATION AND LEGISLATION

- Doctors yes, assistants no** 600
Laurance Jerrold, Brooklyn, NY

STATISTICS AND RESEARCH DESIGN

- Searching the literature for studies for a systematic review. Part 3: Using controlled vocabulary** 604
Anne Littlewood and Dimitrios Kloukos, Manchester, UK, and Bern, Switzerland

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Instructions** 606

IN MEMORIAM

- Eldon Dean Bills, 1931-2018** 607
James L. Vaden and Michael L. Riolo, Cookeville, Tennessee, and Seattle, Washington
- Raymond George Sr, 1939-2018** 609
Perry Opin, Milford, CT

CONTENTS *continued*

DIRECTORY: AAO OFFICERS AND ORGANIZATIONS 610

READER'S SERVICE

Information for authors—on the Internet, go to www.ajodo.org, For Authors, Author Information

Information for readers A22

Classified ad section A35