



Aesthetic Space Maintainer for Premature Loss of Primary Teeth

Laura Clementina Martínez Martínez, María Fernanda Yañez Acosta, Katia Vianey Gutierrez Barragán, Héctor Alejandro Ramírez Peña, Saúl Ramírez de los Santos
University of Guadalajara, Los Altos campus

Introduction

Dental caries is a multifactorial disease, which continues to be the most prevalent childhood disease worldwide. There are certain factors that can influence the progression of the disease such as social factors, eating habits, excessive sugar consumption, prolonged use of a bottle, deficiency in fluoride consumption, among others. Primary teeth usually present a high susceptibility to the disease and, without early attention, the disease progresses and presents serious consequences such as the extraction of temporary teeth due to very advanced caries lesions. Children with premature loss of primary teeth may present sequelae such as alterations in orofacial development, phonation, aesthetics, and harmful oral habits. Aesthetic space maintainers are an efficient treatment option to provisionally restore lost tooth space aesthetically, avoiding a possible speech or swallowing problem and even psychological problems.

Discussion

The premature loss of temporary teeth causes alterations in orofacial development, phonoarticulation, aesthetics, generating bad oral habits. The placement of an aesthetic space maintainer would allow the patient's oral and aesthetic function to be recovered.

References:

- Ribeiro AA, Paster BJ. Dental caries and their microbiomes in children: what do we do now? *Journal of oral microbiology*. 2023;15(1):2198433.
- Márquez-Pérez K, Zúñiga-López CM, Torres-Rosas R, et al. Prevalencia reportada de caries dental en niños y adolescentes mexicanos. *Rev Med Inst Mex Seguro Soc*. 2023;61(5):653-60.

Case report

4 year old male patient attends a consultation at the Pediatric Dentistry Specialty clinic of the los Altos campus, University of Guadalajara. Due to inconvenience to be able to eat and speak correctly. In the oral examination we found root remains in the anterior sector of the incisors. Extraction of teeth #51, #52, #61, #62 (Fig. 1) (Fig. 2) was performed, for subsequent placement of an aesthetic space maintainer, which was performed after impression with bands on teeth #55 and #65, for the fabrication of the aesthetic front. (Fig. 3) With prefabricated teeth and acrylic, made in the plaster model and subsequent adjustment in the mouth. (Fig.4)

Conclusion

The Premature loss of temporary teeth requires timely treatment according to the patient's age. Providing appropriate follow-up is essential to prevent future dental caries lesions.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4