

Why do we still bend archwires in Orthodontics?

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*In modern days the technology seizes to make our lives easier, leading us to simpler routines in ways that man never knew before... and the evolution in the orthodontic industry is not an exception. Our specialty incorporates technology with such easiness that sometimes is scary, the marketing of the orthodontic brands and the opinion of the orthodontic "gurus" makes difficult for many of us orthodontists to keep track with this modernism. In recent years orthodontic practice is more leaded to an in-masse practice forgetting that our patients have something called "individuality". Prescriptions are an excellent idea and they are really helpful in order to make our work easier, but to say you can finish your cases without bending the wires, and not specifying to their clients or customers (us orthodontists) that one prescription can simply not treat all of our patients (those measurements are simply average, therefore to finish well the cases most of the times you must compensate **bending the archwires**) makes beginners and young professionals to believe those things and to become disappointed in the near future. Prescriptions do simplify our practice but that doesn't mean they will eliminate your work. If you want excellence and you are critical with yourself and your work, sometimes for us to grow and develop we just have to go **back to basics** to understand the biomechanical principles of our specialty, because the only prescription that "would" really treat all of our patients and free yourself from and enormous stock of brackets (High, low, standard torque, prescriptions: Andrews, Roth, Alexander, Ricketts, MBT, and so on so far...) would be a standard one, that relies not in oversized brackets and diminished arches (imperfections of the companies), but on our hands and knowledge, are you willing to free yourself or do you want to remain as a company slave because of a deficiency in your orthodontic formation?, facing and overcoming our deficiencies needs hard work, and to strive for excellence requires dedication. That's why we still bend the archwires...*

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Think about it!

Powered by TO: June 1, 2014