

Bremadent, Bremadent play on my clarinet....

Its not often we have special cases to talk about. A patient came into the clinic with an old set of partial dentures that were loose and he could not bite together and he was not eating properly which brings more problems (e.g no contact on any of his teeth). Upon a I/O there was various work to be done to his adjacent teeth, extractions, fillings and an appointment with a hygienist before we could consider a new set of partials.

Upon I/O I noticed that there was a huge amount of maxillary anterior bone loss , now I have seen many flabby ridges, bone loss on the mandible etc, this was different as there was a healthy amount of bone leading towards the posterior region, anteriorly the sulcus area was connected to the incisive papilla. With most denture wearers you can expect a certain amount of bone loss and its usually even due to the pressures of dentures.

Later the patient had stated that he played a instrument called a 'clarinet' which requires heavy pressure from the anterior teeth as you bite down and blow hard. This explained the fact that he had loose dentures and was using this instrument thus accelerating the anterior bone loss. I explained to the patient the limitations we we are up against as he only the UL6 and UL7 present, the patient was acceptable of this.

I done a bite registration and followed his old dentures as a guide line, I noticed that it was evident that he was trembling when I told him to bite together, this indicated to me that he needed an increase in OVD, they say to increase by 2-3mm max I increased it by 10mm and guess what, no trembling, he also stated "i can feel even contact all around, its so comfortable, havent felt like this in years" (My old mentor Dr. A Saeed taught me this).

Now visually looking at the denture, it looks like a huge amount of acrylic anteriorly and i am pretty sure John G was questioning my technical abilities at this point. Once it was in the mouth it was functional, aesthetically pleasing and was retentive against all the odds, there was no fancy contouring on the roots due to the possibility of the denture dislodging itself due to the lack of bone against the cheek muscles.

I am pleased with the results, sometimes what visually looks good on the model does not mean it will look nice in the mouth and vice-versa.

What was used:

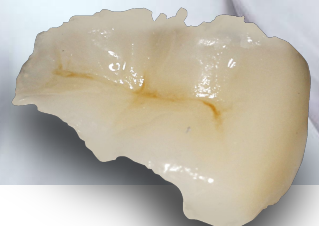
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