

Self-ligating and conventional appliances: a critical analysis

Abstract

The aim of this article was to compare conventional and self-ligating orthodontic appliances, providing professionals of this area information to help them decide which system to use in each clinical case. The article was developed from the controversy created about the efficiency and the effectiveness of the orthodontic treatments performed with self-ligating appliances when compared to the treatment with conventional appliances. Such controversy refers to the aspects of efficiency, comfort and cost-effectiveness of each of these systems. Thus, this article aimed to critically analyze, in the light of current scientific literature, the positive and negative aspects of the utilization and the indication of each orthodontic appliance type in the clinical cases. The method type used was the applied research, with hypothetical-deductive method, quantitative approach, with exploratory objective and bibliographic listing procedure and documentary. We concluded that each type of orthodontic appliance has a specific indication, depending on the clinical and personal necessities of each patient and of the professional billing system.

Descriptors: Orthodontic appliance design. Orthodontic bracket. Friction. Treatment outcome.

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