

COMMENTARY

RESTORATION OF AN ANTERIOR EDENTULOUS SPACE WITH A UNIQUE GLASS FIBER-REINFORCED COMPOSITE REMOVABLE PARTIAL DENTURE: A CASE REPORT

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With the ever-developing improvements in instrumentation, materials, and techniques, dentists are able to provide a constantly higher level of esthetic treatment options to their patients. With this growth, dentists find themselves challenged to meet the ever-increasing demands and situations our patients present. However, it is not often that we look to our younger patients, who pose their own challenging problems, and truly consider their needs for dental esthetics. This is especially true in the situation of the early teen patient who is starting to develop his or her personality and sense of self-confidence and self-image. For such a developing personality, the option of being without a significant segment of their anterior dentition is not an option. However, dentists often delay treatment until the patient is “old enough” and sufficient physical growth has occurred to apply the traditional dental treatment options. All the while, we fail to consider the psychological needs of the developing individual.

This article describes a truly novel technique of addressing the needs of such a patient using glass fiber-reinforced temporary fixed partial denture. The techniques are those we use every day, as are the materials. However, the novelty of its design and application is truly remarkable. I commend the authors for their originality in resolving this complex problem and for bringing the esthetic and physical development concerns of a developing individual to light for the readers of the *Journal*.

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