

COMMENTARY

Enameloplasty and Esthetic Finishing in Orthodontics Part 1 and Part 2

DAN GRAUER, DDS, PhD*, GAVIN HEYMANN, DDS, MS†

Why is it that some orthodontic results look better than others, even in the presence of an excellent occlusal result? An ideal alignment and occlusion of the teeth does not necessarily equal esthetic appearance. In these two articles, Dr. Sarver discusses the macro, mini, and microesthetic considerations as guiding principles to optimize the appearance of every smile.

Dr. Sarver exemplifies the pursuit of excellence in orthodontics through optimal individualization of treatment. Careful attention should be paid to tooth shape and proportion at the beginning of orthodontic treatment, as well as to the position of the teeth relative to the face. Finally, gingival esthetics is also paramount to establish ideal tooth proportion and optimum smile display.

Interdisciplinary diagnosis and treatment planning is crucial in achieving optimum treatment outcomes for our patients. Clinicians are not required to perform procedures that fall outside of their area of comfort or expertise, but every practitioner who is a member of an interdisciplinary team should be aware of the diagnostic process, treatment options, limitations, and prognosis of the procedures agreed upon by the team.

The cases presented by Dr. Sarver are prime examples of patients who required more than orthodontics alone to achieve an optimal esthetic outcome. The most important factor is not necessarily who completes the clinical procedures to improve tooth proportion, but rather the diagnosis or identification of the need to do so in advance. You can only treat what you can detect.

We hope that you will enjoy and learn from Dr. Sarver's patients presented here, where all details of treatment including diagnosis, sequence, timing, performance, photography, and outcomes are outstanding.

*Dan Grauer, DDS, PhD, Department of Orthodontics, UNC School of Dentistry, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7450, USA

†Gavin Heymann, DDS, MS, Private Practice, Durham, NC, USA

This commentary is accompanied by articles, "Enameloplasty and Esthetic Finishing in Orthodontics—Identification and Treatment of Microesthetic Features in Orthodontics Part 1" and "Enameloplasty and Esthetic Finishing in Orthodontics—Differential Diagnosis of Incisor Proclination—The Importance of Appropriate Visualization and Records Part 2" David M. Sarver, DMD, MS, DOI 10.1111/j.1708-8240.2011.00446.x and DOI 10.1111/j.1708-8240.2011.00447.x.

Copyright of Journal of Esthetic & Restorative Dentistry is the property of Wiley-Blackwell and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.