

TMJ UPDATE™

A CURRENT REVIEW OF TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT DEVELOPMENTS

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Consulting Editor Donald F. Bowers, D.D.S., M.S.D. is a professor at the Ohio State University College of Dentistry and has been editor of several professional journals.

Core Journals Reviewed:

ASDC Journal of Dentistry for Children
 Acta Odontologica Scandinavica
 Acta Radiologica Diagnosis
 American Journal of Orthodontics
 The American Journal of Pathology
 Angle Orthodontist
 Archives of Oral Biology
 Australian Dental Journal
 Basal Facts
 British Dental Journal
 British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
 British Journal of Orthodontics
 The Bulletin of Tokyo Dental College
 CDA Journal
 Canadian Dental Association Journal
 Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology
 Computerized Radiology
 Dental Radiography and Photography
 European Journal of Orthodontics
 International Dental Journal
 International Journal of Oral Surgery
 The International Journal of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry
 The Journal of the American Dental Association
 The Journal of the American Medical Association
 The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery
 Journal of Clinical Orthodontics
 The Journal of Craniomandibular Practice
 Journal of Dental Research
 Journal of Dentistry
 Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
 Journal of Oral Pathology
 Journal of Oral Rehabilitation
 The Journal of Periodontology
 The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry
 New Zealand Dental Journal
 Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology Pain
 Pediatric Dentistry
 Quintessence International
 Radiology
 Swedish Dental Journal

Splint Therapy and Clicking

Arthrographically Assisted Splint Therapy: A 6-Month Follow-up, R. Tallents, R. Katzberg, D. Macher, et al., J. Prosthet. Dent., Vol. 56, No. 2, page 224, Aug., 1986

BACKGROUND: Painful clicking of the TMJ is often attributable to a nonreducing meniscus. Patients with this condition are candidates for **protrusive splint therapy**.

PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY: To describe the **results of anterior repositioning splint therapy** for patients with painful clicking.

SUBJECTS AND METHODS: For 51 patients (mean age 31 years) Ramitec registration was used to document the amount of protrusion necessary and was used as a guide in splint construction. Patients were followed for a minimum of 6 months.

RESULTS: The average amount of protrusion required to eliminate the patient's click was 2.7 mm on the affected side and 1.7 mm on the unaffected side. The treatment objective of absence of clicking and sufficiently reduced or eliminated pain was achieved in 45 patients (88.2%). Four of the 6 patients who were not successfully treated underwent surgical intervention. Multiple adhesions in joint spaces were found in all of these patients.

CONCLUSIONS: The authors judge this therapy to be reasonable and will continue to report detailed analysis of signs and symptoms in these patients. However, they caution practitioners to seriously consider the possibility of meniscal displacement progressing to a nonreducing meniscus.

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