C-4. Rapid realignment of flared anterior teeth using lingual button and rubber elastic chain

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Patients suffering from moderate to seriously advanced periodontal diseases often manifest pathologic tooth migration in the anterior teeth resulting in the esthetic impairment. The impairment consisted of unacceptable smile, lower lip biting, and the incisal edge protruding out of the lip border.

Traditonally, interdisciplinary periodontal-orthodontic management of compromised cases has demanded a considerable time and efforts due to the complexities of appliances and treatment modalities required for minor tooth movements. The present case presentation demonstrates the relatively simple and rapid way of managing uncomplicated cases. 25 patients demonstrating anterior flaring (with/without diastema) have been managed for ongoing periodontal disease. Consequently, minor tooth movement has been scheduled by using lingual buttons attached on the labial surfaces of anterior teeth and by connecting them with rubber elastic chains. Cuspid were utilized as anchorage teeth for anterior tooth movement. Adequate intermaxillary space for repositioning maxillary teeth were created by repositioning the lower incisors, with/without stripping out interproximal contacts or shortening the edge (especially in Angle Class I cases).

Time for successful realignment of flared teeth required about 1-3 weeks following the fabrication of the appliances depending on the severity of involvement. Alveolar bone showed stable radiographic feature without any evidence of resoprtive bony changes. Realigned teeth were in good harmony with all adjacent teeth that allowed all the patients to exercise the beautiful smile. Patients were also deeply satisfied with the low financial cost and extremely short time required for the completion of tooth movement.

We have demonstrate that the uncomplicated anterior flaring in periodontal patients could be rapidly and easily managed within a short period of time by the use of lingual buttons and rubber elastic chains.