ASSESSING TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS OF REMOVABLE AND FIXED ORTHODONTIC APPLIANCES USING THE OCCLUSAL INDEX

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by

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CONCLUSION

6.0. The following conclusions can be made:

6.1. Fixed appliances were found to be more effective in treating malocclusions than removable appliances. Fixed appliances produced greater improvement and better end results of treatment than removable appliances.

6.2. The average time span of removable appliance therapy was shorter than the average time span of fixed appliance therapy. However, the variation in time span of removable appliance therapy was much greater than the time span of fixed appliance therapy, and so the treatment time span using removable appliances was much less predictable than if fixed appliances were used.

6.3. The cases eventually treated with fixed appliances had more severe malocclusions than those treated with removable appliances. This indicated a tendency towards using fixed appliances to treat more severe malocclusions in making treatment choices.

6.4. Removable appliances were used to treat malocclusions in the early and middle mixed dentition stages, as well as malocclusions in the late mixed and permanent dentition stages. On the other hand, all the cases treated with fixed appliances were in the late mixed or permanent dentition stage. This indicated a tendency towards using removable appliances to treat malocclusions which had manifested in earlier stages of dental development and might be considered as part of 'interceptive orthodontics', whereas fixed appliances were all used in definitive comprehensive orthodontic cases.