INTRODUCTION

Tooth size discrepancy or uneven spacing between the anterior teeth is a major aesthetic problem for patients. Closure of these interdental spaces using resin composite offer to be a more conservative and practical approach. Direct composite restoration has several distinct advantages, such as conservation of tooth structure, reversibility of procedure, lower cost to patient and relative ease of addition or removal of materials when necessary. The other treatment modalities for treating the anterior spacing includes orthodontic approach or a combination of restorative and prosthodontic treatment method.

Therefore, an interdisciplinary approach that will combine two or more treatment options may be required in order to achieve aesthetically pleasing outcome. This case report describes the treatment of a patient with maxillary anterior spacing due to relapse of orthodontic treatment, which has lead to uneven spacing in the maxillary anterior region.

Case report

A 35-year-old female patient came complaining about spacing in the maxillary anterior teeth. On clinical examination, presence of uneven spacing in the maxillary anterior region from right canine to left canine was observed, with slight midline deviation to the right side. The patient’s past dental history reveals maxillary surgery, which was followed by orthodontic treatment for correction of her proclined upper anterior teeth 5 years back. The widest interdental space was between two central incisors, approximately 4 mm and between 11 and 12 spacing is approximately 3 mm. Mild proclination of the upper 11 was also present [Fig 1a-c]. On her first visit, an irreversible hydrocolloid impression of both arches were taken to fabricate the diagnostic cast.

The main requirement for the patient was an immediate treatment result due to her personal reason and was neither willing for any orthodontic treatment nor any surgical procedure. Based on the analysis of the patient’s face, tooth size discrepancy and the diagnostic cast, a diagnostic wax-up was made. [Fig 2]
On the following visit, after thorough consultation and review of the treatment options with the patient, it was decided to perform intentional root canal therapy in 12, 11, 21, and 22 followed by fixed prosthetic replacement. Routine endodontic therapy was carried out. After establishing the working length, the root canals was cleaned and shaped using Universal Protaper rotary system up to F3 for 11 and 21 and F2 for both the laterals (12 & 22). Irrigation was performed with 1 ml of 2.5% of NaOCl solution. The final irrigation was done with 2% chlorhexidine followed by normal saline. The canal were then obturated using the corresponding size gutta percha points by lateral condensation method with AH Plus sealer. The access cavity was sealed with glass ionomer cement. On her next visit, tooth preparation was done based on the mock wax up preparation made. An utmost care was taken to evenly distribute the interdental space among the anterior region [Fig 3]. The final impression was taken for to process the Porcelain fused-metal bridge. Based on the mock preparation, the acrylic bridge was ready and temporization was done on the same day [Fig 4]. The final porcelain

![Fig. 1(a-c): Preoperative view, model and OPG](image)

![Fig. 2: Wax mock up](image)

![Fig. 3: Tooth preparation](image)

![Fig 4: Temporization](image)

![Fig 5: Final porcelain fused metal bridge](image)
fused metal bridge was processed and was luted on her following visit using Type I Glass ionomer cement [Fig 5]. It is six months since the treatment is complete and the patient is happy with her present esthetic smile.

DISCUSSION

Treatment modalities in aesthetic cases often involve multidisciplinary approach, such as orthodontic treatment, periodontal evaluation, oral surgery, and restorative or prosthodontics treatment. To achieve the desired aesthetically pleasing treatment, smile analysis is essential. It is six months since the treatment is complete and the patient is happy with the outcome of the treatment through this comprehensive approach. A mock up preparation was done using the dental plaster models, which provided a three-dimensional source data, allowing dentists to examine the occlusion and the relation of the maxillary and mandibular dental arches. A diagnostic wax-up also act as a guideline in restoring the anterior maxillary teeth and aids in achieving a more harmonized space distribution. It also helped in turn to educate the patient and visually see the outcome of the treatment. The cosmetic improvement of the smile is possible with both direct and indirect techniques; the latter procedures might require more than one appointment, but are preferred when multiple teeth are involved in the treatment plan and accurate tooth reshaping or color matching is needed. With indirect technique, a pre-visualization of the final esthetic result is extremely useful both for the clinician and for the patient. In this way, desires and preferences related to the new smile are tested before carrying out irreversible teeth preparations. The patient exhibited greater confidence with a new smile. Although, the patient is happy and satisfied with the appearance, a better result could have been achieved, if the gingival level of the central incisors also were corrected through periodontal approach. When considering treatment of the maxillary anterior teeth for esthetic purposes, the dentist must consider each case on its own merits. A step-by-step protocol was proposed from diagnostic evaluation, mock-up fabrication and trial, teeth preparation and impression, and adhesive cementation. The resolution of initial esthetic issues, patient’s satisfaction, nice integration of indirect restoration confirmed the success of this anterior dentition rehabilitation. This case report is an example of well-planned sequences of treatment from the beginning till the end of the procedure. By practical treatment approaches used in this case, the dentist was able to manage and obtain the highest result of esthetic and the patient’s demand was also met.

REFERENCES