

Dental considerations for adjusting occlusal vertical dimension: A Case Report

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The purpose of this article is to discuss the clinical considerations related to increasing the occlusal vertical dimension (OVD) when restoring a patient's dentition. Thorough extra-oral and intraoral evaluations are mandatory to assess the suitability of increasing OVD. In the literature, multiple techniques have been proposed to quantify OVD loss. However, the techniques lack consistency and reliability, which in turn affects the decision of whether to increase the OVD. Therefore, increasing OVD should be determined on the basis of the dental restorative needs and aesthetic demands. In general, a minimal increase in OVD should be applied, though a 5 mm maximum increase in OVD can be justified to provide adequate occlusal space for the restorative material and to improve anterior teeth aesthetics. The literature reflects the safety of increasing the OVD permanently, and although signs and symptoms may develop, these are usually of an interim nature. The exception to this is for patients with TMD, where increasing the OVD should still be achieved using removable appliances to control TMD-associated symptoms before considering any form of irreversible procedure.

Biography

Rayan Sharka has completed his BDS in 2011 at the age of 25 years from King Abdulaziz University Faculty of Dentistry, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. In 2013 he was awarded a position in Removable Prosthodontic Division at Umm Al-Qura University Faculty of Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Diagnostic Sciences Department. He has been actively working at the undergraduate level. He is co-author of two researches.

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