

### Early loss of permanent central incisor – a different approach

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**Background:** Patients with pre-existing hard and soft tissue deficiencies in the aesthetic zone continue to represent a significant technical challenge to clinicians. This is a protocol for a different approach, to achieve predictable aesthetic results in the anterior area, using orthodontic treatment allowed a physiological residual ridge width expansion, prosthetic procedures and implant therapy.

**Aim/Hypothesis:** The aim of this report is to present a protocol that includes orthodontic space redistribution to move the lateral incisor to the central incisor's position, and the placement of one implant in the lateral incisor's position together with a connective tissue graft, in order to increase the buccal volume, and an immediate provisional crown.

**Material and Methods:** One implant was placed in esthetical demanding sites in one patient with early loss of permanent teeth following trauma (17 years old women, non-smoker) following the protocol that combined orthodontic and implant therapy. The first step of this procedure began with orthodontic treatment, for two years, allowing a physiological residual ridge width expansion and space redistribution to move the lateral incisor to the central incisor's position, then an implant was placed. Provisional acrylic crowns were positioned on the implant and lateral incisor (now in the central incisor's position). The all-ceramic restorations were placed four months after placement of the implant. The patient was clinically observed at 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 18, and 24 months, and photographs were taken perpendicularly to the facial aspect of the teeth at abutment placement to record soft tissue changes.

**Results:** The implant was evaluated to present date. It was successfully osseointegrated and the buccal volume remained stable at 24 months.

**Conclusions and Clinical Implications:** Within the limits of this study, this protocol seems to be reliable avoiding more risky and complex GBR techniques, with successful and expected result.