

# The Dahl concept revisited

## Dental History:

The patient had early loss of the front teeth. Presently wearing a partial implant supported prosthesis with failing implants.

## Problem statement:

The current inter-occlusal space is insufficient to correct incisal tooth position and correct malocclusion in the mandible.

## Literature:

Several options are available to create space for anterior restorations:

1. Increasing the occlusal vertical dimension (OVD)
2. Reduction of teeth in same/opposing arch
3. Occlusal reorganization
4. Elective root treatment and placement of post crowns
5. Surgical crown lengthening
6. Orthodontics
7. Dahl appliances

The "Dahl" technique is a non-invasive technique to create increased interocclusal space, utilizing a bite platform in the anterior maxilla. The increased space eliminates the need for further occlusal tooth reduction during crown preparation.

## Methods:

A combination of the "Dahl" technique and orthodontic treatment were performed. This treatment created the required (OVD) for uprighting of the posterior mandibular teeth and correct implant occlusion in the anterior maxilla.

## Conclusion:

The Dahl technique provided sufficient interocclusal space to correct the malocclusion in the mandible. Noticeable change in the side profile and better incisal tooth position.

## References:

1. Poyser NJ, Porter RWJ, Briggs PFA, Chanaa and Kelleher MGD. The Dahl Concept: past, present and future. *BDJ* 2005, 198: 669-676.
2. Saha S and Summerwill AJ. Reviewing the Concept of Dahl. *Dent Update* 2004, 31: 442-447.

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Figure 1: Before occlusion



Figure 2: Before Maxilla



Figure 3: Before Mandible



Figure 4: Before side view



Figure 5: Dahl Occlusion



Figure 6: Dahl bite platform



Figure 7: Uprighting of posterior teeth



Figure 8: Dahl side view



Figure 9: Before Lateral Cephalogram



Figure 10: Before Lateral View



Figure 11: Dahl Lateral Cephalogram



Figure 10: Dahl Lateral View