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## Treatment results in dental school orthodontic patients in 1983 and 1993

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## **ABSTRACT**

The effect of incremental changes in materials and techniques on orthodontic treatment outcomes is difficult to evaluate objectively. Treatment results for two groups of patients whose treatments were completed approximately 10 years apart were evaluated using the peer assessment rating (PAR) index and the index of orthodontic treatment need (IOTN) using the Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed-rank test. Patients in the later group who had been treated by postgraduate students primarily (using fixed appliances) had significantly lower IOTN and PAR scores at the end of treatment and showed a significantly greater reduction in the PAR score than a similar group of patients in the earlier group. There were no significant differences in treatment results between patients in the early and late groups who were treated with removable appliances. Differences in treatment results were most likely the result of changes in materials and techniques that had occurred in the 10 intervening years.

**KEY WORDS:** Orthodontic treatment results, PAR, Peer assessment rating index, IOTN, Index of orthodontic treatment need.

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