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Case Report: Treatment for a patient with a history of TMJ disorder

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ABSTRACT

Establishing a knowledge-based protocol for the treatment of orthodontic patients who report a history of temporomandibular dysfunction can alert the practitioner to potential treatment pitfalls before they happen. While the joints can be extremely adaptive, some individuals are subject to painful and/or limited function. Others have acquired condylar positions that, if not recognized, could lead to serious alterations in the original treatment plan. Combining a thorough diagnostic protocol with a therapeutic regimen that seeks to establish a stable condylar and occlusal position-prior to initiating treatment- is essential.

KEY WORDS: TMJ diagnostic protocol, Muscle splinting, Deprogramming splint.

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