

## Brazilian Oral Research

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### Abstract







[SOUZA, Raphael Freitas de](#) and [COMPAGNONI, Marco Antonio](#). Relation between speaking space of the /s/ sound and freeway space in dentate and edentate subjects. *Braz. oral res.* [online]. 2004, vol.18, n.4, pp. 333-337. ISSN 1806-8324. doi: 10.1590/S1806-83242004000400011.

The purpose of this study is to assess the relation between the speaking space of the /s/ sound and the freeway space in two subject groups. One group had natural dentition (Group I, n = 61) and the other comprised complete denture wearers (Group II, n = 33). The analysis was done by means of a jaw-tracking device (K6-I Diagnostic System, Myotronics Research Inc., Seattle, WA, USA). Freeway space was determined by asking the subjects to occlude from the postural rest position. Speaking space of /s/ was measured during the pronunciation of the word "seis" and comprised the mean distance from the /s/ speaking position to maximal intercuspation. A weak correlation was found between the speaking space of /s/ and the freeway space in Group I ( $r = 0.41$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), but in Group II, the correlation was stronger ( $r = 0.75$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ). The speaking space of /s/ and freeway space were different in Group I, but statistically similar in Group II (paired  $t$ -test,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ). It can be suggested that anatomic changes following prosthetic procedures caused a functional adaptation which resulted in more similar values for the speaking space of /s/ and the freeway space.

Keywords : Phonetics; Dental occlusion; Denture, complete; Jaw relation record.

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