Image is everything

Armed with intra-oral pictures, diagnosticians are able to draw up treatment plans. The dentist can then decide with the patient, which plan is the most suitable. Andrew McCance explains

Assessing malocclusions

With the skillful use of cheek retractors and mirrors (warmed in hot water first to reduce condensation), you can capture excellent intra-oral images. These are vital to accurately assess the severity of malocclusions. In order to achieve the right lighting of the area, the diagnostic team recommends the use of a ring-flash. The mirror is used to achieve high-quality diagnostic images of the lower occlusal and upper arch regions, while the cheek retractors are ideal to enable great images of the anterior, left and right buccal regions.

Armed with these images, diagnosticians are able to draw up treatment plans. The dentist and patient can then decide which plan is the most suitable, and move forward to create a healthy and aesthetically pleasing smile.

About the author

In the mid 1990s, Dr McCance began to develop the Cleanstep brace, based on the demands of the 4,000 patients treated annually in his specialist practice. He is currently taking his Cleanstep vision to a worldwide audience. For more information, call the OPT Laboratory & Diagnostic Facility on 01342 337910, email info@clearstep.co.uk or visit www.cleanstep.co.uk.

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