The American Association of Orthodontists will host its 2014 annual session at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, featuring keynote speaker Peyton Manning and Opening Ceremonies’ musical guest Kenny Loggins. 

The American Association of Orthodontists will host its 114th annual session in New Orleans April 25–29, featuring Big Easy-style fun and a cutting-edge education program.

AAO President Gayle Glenn, DDS, MSD, says the AAO team, “has been working extremely hard to develop outstanding doctors’ and staff programs and finalizing arrangements for world-class entertainment.”

To kick off the week, the AAO’s Annual Session Opening Ceremonies will feature Kenny Loggins on Saturday, April 26. In addition, the AAO team expects many attendees will share in the excitement about the Excellence in Orthodontics Awards Luncheon keynote speaker, Denver Broncos Quarterback Peyton Manning.

With a Doctors Program reflecting the AAO’s reputation for outstanding conferences and a host city equated with unparalleled fun, the 2014 annual session will be a meeting no orthodontist will want to miss, the AAO team asserts.

In addition to the extensive educational elements, the AAO will feature more than 300 companies exhibiting their newest products and services at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.

New Orleans was recently voted “Best American City to Visit” in a Travel + Leisure magazine readers’ poll and also ranked No. 1 in 13 other categories. For music lovers, the news gets even better: The 2014 annual session is scheduled at the same time as the 2014 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival (Jazz Fest). The world-renowned musical celebration takes place April 25–May 4 and features music in a variety of styles indigenous to Louisiana, including R&B, gospel, Cajun, zydeco, Afrobe-Caribbean, jazz, blues and bluegrass.

For sports lovers, also taking place at the same time as the AAO Annual Meeting is the Zurich Classic of New Orleans, in which golf fans will have a
How to improve our diagnostic acumen: Teach it to our residents – Part II

By Dennis J. Tartakow, DMD, MED, EdD, PhD, Editor in Chief

To continue the discussion regarding what our residents are missing in his or her orthodontic training, nothing is a better teacher than personal experience(s) regarding what we do and how we do it in our practices. Expert training is a reflection on the educators and mentors in postgraduate residency programs. The following considerations are important subjects in the diagnostic process and examination; they are especially valuable and significant for the

- See RESIDENTS, page 6

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Myobrace System: An evolution in orthodontics

By Rohan Wijey, B Oral H (Dent. Sc.), Grad. Dip. Dent. (Griffith), OM

Many have now accepted The Myobrace System™ is peerless in terms of the potential to cajole the orofacial muscles into widening arches and allowing good dental alignment. 

There exists a common misconception amongst dentofacial orthopedists, however, that although The Myobrace System is proficient at straightening teeth, traditional functional appliance systems are better for facial development. This was a belief to which even I subscribed before I began to actually use the system myself. Although I paid lip service to the role of muscles in malocclusion, I had not truly appreciated the potential to correct malocclusion by re-training these muscles.

Indeed, most experienced Myobrace practitioners have come to regard traditional functional appliance therapy as simply another allotropic form of traditional orthodontics: Mechanical interventions that ignore the role of muscles.

To be fair, much of the skepticism leveled at The Myobrace System seems to be borne out of misgivings about myofunctional therapy.

Myofunctional therapy (MT) as a science has been extant for more than 100 years, enjoying great popularity, especially in the 1970s. Although it has been proven to be able to elicit impressive results, Smith-peter and Covell (2010)1 have cited a number of reasons for a general lack of enthusiasm:

1. Limited office space for providing therapy.
2. Absence of MT providers.
3. Difficulty and amount of time required.
4. Inadequate training.
5. Belief that function will follow form.
6. Inadequate scientific evidence to support orofacial MT.
7. Observations that not all MT providers have the same expertise, so successful results are unpredictable.

The Myobrace System has managed to package traditional myofunctional therapy into a system that has ensured easily reproducible, better results, in less time, with less effort.

The system, thus, represents a confluence and evolution of fixed appliance therapy, functional appliance therapy and myofunctional therapy.

The case (Fig. 1) is a prime example of treatment outcomes satisfying the goals of proper alignment, facial development and treating muscle dysfunction for a more stable result. She was treated with an upper Farrell Bent Wire System™, together with a K1 Myobrace®, followed by a K2 and the Myobrace T1 and T3 for final alignment.

From a dental perspective, of note is the space recovered for the upper right and lower left canine teeth. From a facial perspective, the naso-labial angle has improved significantly, while it is clear that the vertical clockwise direction of growth has been re-oriented to a more horizontal direction. These outcomes have been achieved by harnessing the power of the muscles with a system that is more time efficient.

The Mission of the AAO Foundation, the charitable arm of the American Association of Orthodontists, is to “advance the orthodontic specialty by supporting education and research”.

Foundation funding ensures the future viability of the specialty by investing in the next generation of educators and researchers. Since 1994, the AAOF Awards Program has contributed $9.5 million in funding, primarily in support of Junior Faculty.

In addition to support of Junior Faculty, the Foundation has created the AAOF Craniofacial Growth Legacy Collection (www.aaolegacycollection.org) designed to preserve representative materials from the participating orthodontic collections, improving orthodontic research in the U.S. and Canada.

The latest fundraising effort of the AAO Foundation’s overall Continued Commitment to the Specialty® is the new Research Initiative focused on improving orthodontic research in the U.S. and Canada by bringing in $5 million in new pledges, so that overtime and calculated at an average rate of return of six percent, this will result in an additional $300,000 restricted for orthodontic research.

Please consider a pledge to support this new initiative!

For further information contact Robert Hazel, rhazel@aaoortho, 800.424.2841, #546 or visit our website at www.aaofoundation.net

401 North Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63141-7816

Fig. 1: A case study.
Photo/Provided by Myofunctional Orthodontics

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Ormco Corporation offers its new Damon Clear2 bracket at the AAO

By Ormco Corporation Staff

A survey conducted by the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) found that when meeting someone new, 37 percent of Americans notice a person’s smile before anything else. This comes as little surprise to the orthodontic community, but it speaks directly to the importance of esthetically pleasing orthodontic solutions that deliver extraordinary results.

At the 2014 AAO Annual Session, Ormco’s Damon Clear2 will be featured in the newly announced, and now shipping, Damon Clear2 bracket. An enhancement to Ormco’s popular Damon Clear bracket—only 0.022-in. thick—Damon Clear2 features enhanced power, efficiency and consistency. With a new ultra-precision slot, Damon Clear2 boasts two times the rotation compared to the previous Damon System brackets, yet it is virtually invisible and resistant to staining.

Additionally, Damon Clear2’s optimized bond strength and innovative SpinTek™ slide ensure durability as well as comfortable and fast wire changes and adjustments. Damon Clear2—an ideal solution for today’s image-conscious adults and teens—provides the performance and control needed to treat a wide range of cases, including patients with crowding, flat profiles, open bites, cross bites and individuals in need of space closure and arch development.

Clinicians treating with Damon Clear2 may also be featured on the Damon Doc Locator advertised on Ormco’s consumer website, www.damonbraces.com. Designed to help drive new patients to Damon practices, the Damon Locator is a powerful online directory for patients to quickly and easily find their nearest Damon System orthodontist via the web, Facebook and other web-enabled devices.

More than 56 million consumers have been exposed to the Damon System through Ormco’s outreach efforts, and during a four-year period, damonbraces.com has experienced a 113 percent increase in traffic, while the Damon Doc Locator has experienced a 283 percent increase in searches. This translates to more patients for Damon practices.

Purchases of Damon Clear2 also contribute to Ormco Lifetime Rewards, a rewards program in which points never expire. With Ormco Lifetime Rewards, clinicians earn points on every dollar spent on Ormco appliances and redeem them for numerous high-quality products and supplies. Research indicates that, through the rewards program, the average doctor earns up to $25,000 in free products.

Additionally, doctors offering the Damon System benefit from Ormco’s industry-leading educational events and programs including the annual Damon Doctor’s Forum, regional education events, in-office courses, webinars, roadshows and more.

As orthodontists, we are still responsible for diagnosing pathology in the head and neck, and treating or referring the patient to someone who can provide proper care. By example, we must demonstrate how to be the best orthodontist possible and the consummate expert in our field.

Reference

Fig. 1. Photo/Cobourne & DiBase, 2010, p. 25

Fig. 2. Photo/Cobourne & DiBase, 2010, p. 16

As orthodontists, we are still responsible for diagnosing pathology in the head and neck, and treating or referring the patient to someone who can provide proper care. By example, we must demonstrate how to be the best orthodontist possible and the consummate expert in our field.

Reference
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*As compared to Damon Clear, data on file. Standard torque, upper 3-3 brackets.
Ultradent introduces new Class II corrector, Esprit

By Opal Orthodontics Staff

Opal Orthodontics recently introduced Esprit™, a revolutionary Class II corrector. This new corrector has been specifically designed to address the overwhelming demand for everything missing in other Class II correctors on the market today.

Developed with the innovative and cutting-edge technology Opal Orthodontics has consistently built its reputation on, Esprit finally answers the call for an easier-to-install, more comfortable, highly-durable Class II corrector, the company asserts.

Esprit’s innovative strength and comfort will provide your patients with a more pain-free orthodontic experience, reducing emergency appointments and more pain-free orthodontic experience, the company asserts.

Esprit is undoubtedly the most technologically advanced corrector on the market.

On using Esprit, Dr. Miller said: “The Esprit has better patient acceptance and tolerance because the spring is nestled in more comfortable, more comfortable, and allows liquid flow to keep it clean. This revolutionary clip is a breeze to install and remove, but stays in place without disengaging during treatment. Esprit also features a mesial hook that prevents rolling into the occlusion. The hook is smooth for patient comfort and can also be removed with ease — no cutting required. Esprit’s enclosed stainless-steel spring prevents painful pinching and hygienic trapping of food. This unique enclosed spring also resists deformation and maintains consistent force throughout the patient’s treatment. Esprit’s dual-telescoping feature increases range of motion, and its distal body opening prevents bottoming out and allows liquid flow to keep it clean. The entire corrector is laser welded, allowing it to withstand even the toughest treatment from any patient — 100 percent guaranteed.”

Scientific program highlights

★ Three of the world’s top speakers, Drs. Wick Alexander, Patrick Turley and James McNamara, will be giving the latest information on three critical topics in the AAO’s prestigious Salzmann, Mesher and Angle special awards lectures. This is an excellent opportunity to learn from these experienced researchers and clinicians, the AAO asserts.

★ When a referring dentist mentions ‘abfraction lesion,’ do you know what it means or if it is real? What is the most contemporary thinking on periodontal grafting techniques? What are the options in cosmetic veneers, minimal preparations and materials? Moderated by Dr. David Sarver, the Interdisciplinary Esthetic Advances Symposium is a full day of the world’s pre-eminent cosmetic dental clinicians put together to provide the latest current thinking in interdisciplinary dentistry.

★ A comprehensive practice management track with 12 speakers will present three topics critical to today’s orthodontic practice. “Marketing for Income,” “Managing for Profit” and “Monitoring Your Money.” Do you know what to do if you just found out you were given a bad review on Yelp? Is it really possible to eliminate impressions from your practice? If you are not sure, come to the one-day session, “Technology for the Orthodontic Office,” for both doctors and staff, to find out the answers to these questions and many more!

★ Continuing the popular “Asking the Expert” and “Point/Counterpoint” programs, this year’s sessions will address topical questions, such as “Extraction vs Non-extraction,” “Surgery First?” and “Modern Approaches to Mechanics.” Eight master clinicians from around the world will conduct special lectures on transverse and vertical problems.

Event information

★ What: The AAO’s 114th Annual Session
★ When: April 25-29
★ Where: Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans
★ More information: www.aainfo.org

References