Current technological advances have had a major impact on contemporary orthodontics, allowing the clinician to provide quality treatment with favorable esthetic results in a shorter time period.

Indeed, patients are increasingly seeking orthodontic treatment that does not negatively affect the facial esthetics. Thus, clinicians need to have sound scientific knowledge and appropriate technology at hand to be able to offer optimal treatment to each patient.

The use of esthetic, low-friction orthodontic appliances and orthodontic miniscrews allows faster and more efficient treatment with a reduced risk of the side effects of conventional orthodontic mechanics and tissue damage caused by the orthodontic tooth movement.

These appliances also address the issue of lack of cooperation on the part of patients with regard to use of headgear and other traditional intraoral anchorage devices, when treating Class II and Class III malocclusions or severe crowding. Both adolescent and adult patients often refuse to wear these appliances as they are not considered esthetic.

This book emphasizes the importance of facial esthetics during orthodontic treatment by describing intraoral anchorage systems that help eliminate the requirement for headgear and also diagnosis, treatment planning and orthodontic biomechanics with second molar extractions.

All these are key issues that patients take into consideration when deciding whether or not to undergo orthodontic treatment.

The development of the SmartClip™ Self-Ligating Metal Appliance led to the possibility of developing the Clarity™ SL Self-Ligating Appliance. This appliance features the same characteristics as the SmartClip™ Self-Ligating Metal Appliance, however, it also fulfills the esthetical needs of patients.

Finally, the book also discusses the concept of second molar extractions in orthodontic treatment. This is a useful option in carefully selected patients in whom the erupting third molars would eventually be a good substitute for the second molars extracted for orthodontic purposes.

Thus this book presents a treatment philosophy based on use of esthetic self-ligating appliances and orthodontic miniscrews for anchorage, and treatment with second molar extraction. All these factors allow the clinician to provide orthodontic treatment with more predictable results and efficient sliding biomechanics with the application of low force levels and more favorable biological responses. – Dr. Hugo Trevisi
Chapter 1
Low-Friction Esthetic Brackets: The Clarity™ SL Self-Ligating Appliance System

Contents:
• Characteristics of the appliance
• Sliding mechanics with the Clarity™ SL Self-Ligating Appliance
  - Aligning
  - Leveling
  - Space closure
  - Finishing and detailing
• Clarity™ SL Self-Ligating Appliance bracket removal
• Clinical Case
• Clinical Case

Chapter 2
Miniscrews and Biomechanics in Orthodontics

Contents:
• SmartClip™ Self-Ligating Appliances and Orthodontic Miniscrews
• Miniscrews: type, shape and size
• Surgical protocol for insertion of miniscrews
• Planning the placement of the orthodontic appliances to allow insertion of miniscrews
• Miniscrews as anchorage system in premolar extraction cases
• Class II treatment with molar distalization using miniscrews
  - Molar distalization using miniscrews
  - Anchorage considerations after molar distalization
  - Space closure mechanics
  - Detailing and finishing
• Intrusion of teeth using miniscrews
  - Intrusion of molars
  - Intrusion of lower incisors
  - Intrusion of upper incisors
• Mesialization and uprighting of molars using miniscrews
• Clinical Case

Chapter 3
Second Molar Extractions

Contents:
• Development of second molars and third molars
• Why should second molars be extracted?
• When should second molars be extracted?
• Characteristics of patients who undergo second molar extractions
• Management of the distalizing mechanics
• Eruption of third molars after second molar extraction
• Clinical Case
• Clinical Case

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