Nomenclature for Device Design Characterizations

Device design is a very important part of providing effective oral appliance therapy and is reviewed throughout the AADSM Mastery Program. To ensure unbiased education that remains applicable as device manufacturers change and products evolve, the AADSM Mastery Program uses categories, rather than device names, to guide dentists through oral appliance fabrication. The order within each category below is alphabetical.

We encourage industry to adopt this terminology when discussing their products with dentists to ensure that consistent language is being used throughout the field.

Materials

A. Acrylics
   1. Hard acrylic (PMMA-polymethylmethacrylate)
      a) “Salt and pepper” additive technique
      b) Milled from controlled-cure, medical grade
   2. Thermal acrylic (Astron Clear Splint, Fricke Clear Soft, Talon) - rigid at room temp and flexible at intraoral temp
   3. Multiple-phase acrylic
      a) Hard shell with flexible liner (e.g. “hard-soft”, “flex”, “comfort”)
      b) Hard shell with thermal resin (ThermAcryl) - rigid at mouth temp, fluid at 160 degrees

B. Acrylic/Metal combinations

C. Metals

D. Pressure-formed thermoplastics

E. Printed nylon
Retention Mechanism
A. Flexible liners
B. Milled precision fit
C. Metal
   1. Distal molar wrap
   2. Interproximal ball clasps, C clasps
D. Nylon rebound
E. Thermal acrylcs
F. Thermoplastic resin remolding (ThermAcryl)
G. Pressure-formed thermoplastic rebound

Extension
A. Fully edentulous or edentulous areas
B. Teeth and extension beyond teeth
C. Teeth only
D. Teeth-partial lingual coverage or lingual-less
E. Teeth-partial occlusal coverage

Attachment and propulsion
A. Attached
   1. Bilateral compression
   2. Bilateral traction
   3. Midline traction
B. Unattached
   1. Bilateral interlocking

Protrusive Mechanism and Protrusive Range of Motion (pROM)
A. Incremental units or exchangeable pieces
B. Screw turn
C. Strap change

Occlusal support
A. Anterior only, discluding
B. Full occlusal
C. Posterior only
D. Tripod
Customizable options

A. Accommodation for mouth breathing
B. Anterior ramp
C. Attachment for PAP
   1. Adaptable chairside with pre-manufactured components
   2. Lab adaptation
D. Elastics attachments to promote mouth closure
E. Minimal interocclusal distance
F. Open screws during fabrication for retrusive ROM
G. Reinforcement
H. Changeable propulsion
I. Externally titratable

Nomenclature for Protrusive Bite Gauges

As with device selection, the AADSM Mastery Program provides an overview of protrusive bite acquisition. The AADSM Mastery Program uses the following category descriptors to review the many styles of bite gauges and to educate dentists on the best practices for bite acquisition.

A. Horizontal sliding bite gauge
B. Horizontal sliding bite gauge with vertical adjustment ramp
C. System of horizontal positioning simulators and vertical keys
D. Three-axis bite gauge