ESTHETIC AND FUNCTIONAL REHABILITATION OF A BILATERAL CLEFT LIP AND PALATE PATIENT: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

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OBJECTIVE: Treatment of patients with cleft lip and palate represents a problem from functional and esthetic points of view. An interdisciplinary management is essential to give a functional and esthetically pleasing result. Thus, the objective of this case report is to demonstrate the importance of interdisciplinary treatment of patients with cleft lip and palate. CASE REPORT: This study addresses the diagnosis, planning, and orthodontic-surgical-prosthetic management of a Class III patient, with bilateral cleft lip and palate. The patient was 15 years old at orthodontic treatment onset and his main complaint was the esthetic appearance of his teeth. He received orthodontic treatment by maxillary expansion and teeth alignment, which was followed by orthognathic surgery and prosthetic treatment. The treatment plan included extraction of the central incisor and the supernumerary tooth, and installment of a fixed prosthesis. In clefts affecting the alveolar ridge, a tooth malpositioning is commonly observed, represented by the presence of contra-angulated and rotated maxillary central incisors, which are often hypoplastic with short roots. In the case presented, the malposition and bad condition of the central incisor justified its extraction. Besides, the esthetics of a fixed bridge would be better considering tooth symmetry and color, comparing to the use of the patient's central incisor in the rehabilitative treatment. CONCLUSION: The final results of this case provided satisfactory esthetic and functional outcome considering its complexity. The interdisciplinary approach to managing the patient's discrepancies allowed the team to achieve all objectives that were established before treatment.

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