COURSE ID: ODO.14
FACIAL ESTHETICS

FOCUS ON
FACIAL CANONS OF BEAUTY AND THEIR LIMITATIONS
CONCEPTS OF AVERAGENESS AND ATTRACTIVENESS
STATIC AND DYNAMIC EVALUATION ESTHETICS

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Goals: This series of lectures should enable the resident to:
1. Define and understand key concepts of facial esthetics, ranging from the age-old attempt at determining averages and canons of beauty, to the premise of attractiveness extending beyond averageness.
2. Understand the variations of facial beauty and norms with race, ethnicity, age, gender and other constitutional variables.
3. Be familiar with different theories on human form and the relation between beauty and self image as well as psychology.
4. Appreciate the importance of facial esthetics in combination with proper oral function, and thus the role of the orthodontist and orthognathic surgeon in affecting body image and well being of patients.

Objectives: The resident should:
1. Be familiar with the historical quest to quantify facial esthetics through various applications of proportional equations between body and face, and within the face.
2. Know basic measurements of the face in different planes, and the prevalence of the concept of averageness within various groups differing in ethnicity, race, age, gender, etc.
3. Understand the developing concepts and supporting research of attractiveness transcending averageness, and how this concept might find its clinical application.
4. Understand the premise that a dysmorphology is self-limiting from constitutional and therapeutic perspectives: within the parts: individual facial features (chin, lips, etc.); between features.
5. Understand the complexity of interrelations between the soft tissue drape (thickness) and the underlying hard tissue support.
6. Relate esthetics to health, concomitant to its relation to function within this context.
7. Know the components of dynamic esthetics, such as the appropriate relations of lips during smile and speech.
8. Be able to reconcile the competing theories of optimal measurable esthetics with the concept of beauty in “the eyes of the beholder”, the latter being the patient-orthodontist/surgeon team in a context of informed consent.

COURSE DURATION AND SCOPE: This course is key for the knowledge and skill acquisition the orthodontic resident, as it aims to structure a regular component of life, esthetics, as a practical reference for facial analysis and treatment planning. The course is scheduled in the first and second years, and is revisited in different contexts. It is given at a 2-hour session on a weekly basis for at least 5 sessions.
POLICY ON EXAMINATIONS: At least 2 biannual examinations (progress and final) are given for all courses, if a course spans the entire year. If classes terminate before the end of a semester, the final examination is given at the semi-annual examination that is closest to the end of the course, unless the course director schedules the final examination earlier. During a course, any number of progress tests or assignments may be given. Their cumulative weight in proportion to the final grade may not exceed 50%. The Scope of examination determined by progress and active participation in class, including knowledge of reading material.

FACIAL ESTHETICS

SUMMARY OUTLINE

PART 1. BASIC INFORMATION

1- Esthetics in average measurement
2- Facial distinctions
   A- Distinctions of gender
   B- Distinctions of age
   C- Distinctions of race and ethnicity
   D- Distinctions of pathology
   E- Distinctions of treatment
3- Role of orthodontics in facial esthetics
   A- Esthetics in Proportion: generalities and variation
      A1- Face and body
      A2- Face
   B- Soft tissue in angular and linear measurements
      B1- En face
      B2- Profile

PART II. ADVANCED LEARNING

4- Interpreting human form
5- The dynamics of the face
   A- The anatomy of a smile
   B- The anatomy of speech

COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction: The Face: Harmony Transcends the Measurements
Facial esthetics is evaluated in relation to centuries old well established canons and proportions. Yet, facial harmony and beauty may not be restricted to measurements, which represent only one facet of facial esthetics. Other aspects are described, which are the object of evaluation of varied disciplines, from philosophy to psychology. These facets include distinctions of gender, age, ethnicity, pathology, and treatment; interpretations of facial form; and expression. Concepts of facial esthetics are explored, including the concept that attractiveness goes beyond averageness, with a specific focus on the chin and lips, including primary data on the relationship between lips and teeth during smile and speech. The application of the varied principles in orthodontic and orthognathic treatment is discussed and illustrated with clinical data. These treatment modalities, which aim at improving masticatory function and possibly speech, also offer an opportunity to improve esthetics that should not be missed.

Part 1. BASIC INFORMATION

1. ESTHETICS IN AVERAGE MEASUREMENT
   Esthetics is conveniently appraised in proportions of face to body and among facial features, but variation in unit of comparison must be considered.

2. FACIAL DISTINCTIONS
   A. Distinctions of gender
      Female facial features smaller in size; male face more “robust”
   B. Distinctions of age
      Prejudice of youth: against gravity
   C. Distinctions of race and ethnicity
      Difference with harmony
   D. Distinctions of pathology
      Prejudice of health
   E. Distinctions of treatment

3. ROLE OF ORTHODONTICS IN FACIAL ESTHETICS
   Orthodontics can influence facial harmony: the lower face affects the total face
   A. Esthetics in Proportion: generalities and variation
      Facial harmony in average measurements
      a. Face and body
      b. Face
   B. Soft tissue in angular and linear measurements
Part 2. ADVANCED LEARNING

4. INTERPRETING HUMAN FORM
   Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder, and of the self.

5. THE DYNAMICS OF THE FACE
   A. The anatomy of a smile
   B. The anatomy of speech
REFERENCES


