

CRAZY CASE, GREAT RESULT!

CASE STUDY BY DR. JIM BUCKLEY

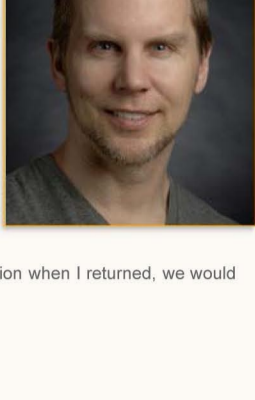


A must read step-by-step case study, including the use of coil springs, elastics, powerchains, clearlets and lingual buttons.

STEP-BY-STEP CASE STUDY

By Dr. Jim Buckley

Dr. Jim Buckley
Six Month Smiles Provider



Desiree presented in my office for a comprehensive exam with a chief concern of her crooked teeth, specifically asking for an extraction and bridge. She reported she was finishing graduate school in May of 2013 and wanted her smile fixed before she moved to LA to work in the film industry. Desiree was only 25 years old, so I informed her that those treatments are very aggressive and not a good treatment for the teeth involved. I referred her for a comprehensive ortho consult where she heard the standard "2 years" treatment plan. She left the consult in tears. I told her that I was attending the Six Month Smiles Level 1 course the following week and that if I felt we could improve her situation when I returned, we would get started. She was on board for anything.

Treatment Plan

The initial Tx Rx:

- Lower Arch Ideal bracket set up ending at the 1st molars
- Upper Arch Molar tubes on 1st AND 2nd Molar UL for greater rounding potential. No bracket placed on #11 from set up and lingual buttons on 13, 14, 15

The plan was to get as much space for the canine as possible. Lower arch had no deviations from standard Six Month Smiles protocol.



Patient before Six Month Smiles.



At braces on September 2012, I started the patient with bite guards on 2nd molars, cross arch elastics to lingual buttons on #13 and #14 to jump cross bites, no use of lingual button on #15 to start, ties and donuts on a .014 wires U/L, then set up a 2 week appointment to check on her.



Dr. Buckley's patient at the 2 week appointment.



At the 2 week appointment, the lateral #10 was tilting facially (looking worse!) without rotating, so I placed a powerchain on #7-10 to pull/rotate it to #8. I quickly realized in this case, two week appointments were needed to manage the unexpected/unwanted movements.



The patient 1 month into treatment.
A compressed coil spring was added to open space for #11.



At the 1 month appointment, #10 was rotating, but #7,8,9 were tipping toward #10! I removed the anterior powerchain and placed a compressed coil spring on #10-12 to open space for #11 and push/rotate #10 toward #9. Continued cross arch elastic use.



Patient 6 weeks into treatment. #2-9 were longtied to prevent unwanted movement.



At six week appointment #7,8,9 returned to initial position. I longtied #2 through #9 to prevent unwanted movement and replaced power chain #7-10 and compressed coil spring #10-12.

The two month appointment showed great progress. #10 was almost completely rotated and crossbites were cleared UL. I removed bite guards, IPRd between #12-13-14 with handpiece and diamond bur, placed power chain on lingual buttons #12-13-14-15 AND on the buccal brackets #12-13-14-15 to draw the premolars distally to create space for the #11. I then placed .016 wire and kept the premoled coil spring on #10-12 and the powerchain on #7-10. The amount of powerchain broke the six teeth on a .016 wire rule, but since I still had a longtie from #2-9, I was confident I was in control of unwanted movements now.

At the 10 week appointment, I replaced all powerchains buccal and lingual. By the three month appointment, #10 rotation was complete and contact with #9 was achieved! This opened up a space to place a clearlet on #11. I longtied #2-10 to prevent relapse of #10 to the now engaged #11 in the wire. .016 wire was tied to the clearlet on #11 with elastic thread, which still had the compressed coil spring on #10-12. No powerchains were replaced in the anterior but, I did replace buccal and lingual chains on #12-15.

I replaced the B/L powerchains on #12-15 at the 14 week appointment.

The four month appointment showed that a huge space had developed for the canine! I removed the clearlet on #11 and placed the bracket on the disto-facio-incisal of #11. A very unideal bracket position but the only place I could access and tie the wire in. The coil spring was removed, but I replaced B/L powerchains on #12-15.

From this point on, at every two week appointment, we removed the upper wire and repositioned the bracket on #11, moving it closer and closer to ideal position.

At the five month appointment, all IPR created space on the UL was closed so I removed all lingual buttons.

During months five-eight, I continued repositioning bracket #11 until we got to the ideal position.



Dr. Buckley's patient after Six Month Smiles. Total treatment time was 8 months.



The Patient's Reaction & Summary of Case

We spent so much time on the upper arch handling the patient's chief concern, that we finished with some lower premolar rotation that could have been solved by repositioning some lower brackets, but the patient was so ecstatic with the upper results and was moving to LA so she had no concerns with the lower arch.

There were lots of tears, smiles and hugs from the patient and the staff at braces off. Probably the happiest patient I have ever treated and the biggest learning experience in my career.

All of the two week appointments really helped me undo any unwanted movements that were occurring. This was only my second case but I felt I had a good understanding of tooth movement from the Six Month Smiles course. Since this case, I have gained great confidence and tackled a number of other complex cases that would have taken 2 years of comprehensive ortho. Six Month Smiles has led to very happy patients in my practice!