

# TMJ UPDATE™

A CURRENT REVIEW OF TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT DEVELOPMENTS

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Core Journals Reviewed:

ASDC Journal of Dentistry for Children  
 Acta Odontologica Scandinavica  
 Acta Radiologica Diagnosis  
 American Journal of Orthodontics  
 The American Journal of Pathology  
 Angle Orthodontist  
 Archives of Oral Biology  
 Australian Dental Journal  
 Basal Facts  
 British Dental Journal  
 British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
 British Journal of Orthodontics  
 The Bulletin of Tokyo Dental College  
 CDA Journal  
 Canadian Dental Association Journal  
 Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology  
 Computerized Radiology  
 Dental Radiography and Photography  
 European Journal of Orthodontics  
 International Dental Journal  
 International Journal of Oral Surgery  
 The International Journal of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry  
 The Journal of the American Dental Association  
 The Journal of the American Medical Association  
 The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery  
 Journal of Clinical Orthodontics  
 The Journal of Craniomandibular Practice  
 Journal of Dental Research  
 Journal of Dentistry  
 Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
 Journal of Oral Pathology  
 Journal of Oral Rehabilitation  
 The Journal of Periodontology  
 The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry  
 New Zealand Dental Journal  
 Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology Pain  
 Pediatric Dentistry  
 Quintessence International  
 Radiology  
 Swedish Dental Journal

## Splint Therapy and Clicking

**Arthrographically Assisted Splint Therapy: A 6-Month Follow-up, R. Tallents, R. Katzberg, D. Macher, et al., J. Prosthet. Dent., Vol. 56, No. 2, page 224, Aug., 1986**

**BACKGROUND:** Painful clicking of the TMJ is often attributable to a nonreducing meniscus. Patients with this condition are candidates for **protrusive splint therapy**.

**PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY:** To describe the results of anterior repositioning splint therapy for patients with painful clicking.

**SUBJECTS AND METHODS:** For 51 patients (mean age 31 years) Ramitec registration was used to document the amount of protrusion necessary and was used as a guide in splint construction. Patients were followed for a minimum of 6 months.

**RESULTS:** The average amount of protrusion required to eliminate the patient's click was 2.7 mm on the affected side and 1.7 mm on the unaffected side. The treatment objective of absence of clicking and sufficiently reduced or eliminated pain was achieved in 45 patients (88.2%). Four of the 6 patients who were not successfully treated underwent surgical intervention. Multiple adhesions in joint spaces were found in all of these patients.

**CONCLUSIONS:** The authors judge this therapy to be reasonable and will continue to report detailed analysis of signs and symptoms in these patients. However, they caution practitioners to seriously consider the possibility of meniscal displacement progressing to a nonreducing meniscus.

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