

37. Dental photography as a tool for precision of documentation

WG CDR Ratandeep S. Ahuja

Ever since dentistry has been advancing and taking newer steps in the last few decades, various newer procedures, techniques, materials, their applications and methodologies have come to the front. Any procedure in dentistry which has to come to common practice needs to be documented in various animal studies, research papers, scientific articles and finally with some acceptance from professional circles; after few years of criticism or brainstorming by advocates and critics, finally finds itself in textbooks, and then try to be accepted as a norm; if not by all, at least a majority of the professionals of that specialty. Towards achieving this aim of acceptance by documenting the procedures and techniques in dentistry, dental photography plays an important role in proper depiction of the step by step procedure, recording of pre-operative and post-operative changes in the appearance and the profile of the patient, correct recording of the shades and the hues. . . This paper defines the role of dental photography, elucidating the standardization of shots and tries to explain the nuances of dental photography in an endeavor to achieve the good, better and best images of one's cases, so as to impress upon the clientele, peers and professional circles and thereby uplifting the standards of documentation in dentistry.

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