MODULE 4
ADVANCED TREATMETN PLANNING FIXED RESTORATIVE

Occlusion?
- Simon likens searching for the truth in occlusion to Alice looking for the right path in Wonderland. There are so many diverse opinions regarding this subject that it is not uncommon to witness discord among colleagues at professional meetings. So, what is the truth?

Dentists develop their own philosophy of how to best manage the occlusion of every patient they are treating. How they obtain their personal philosophy of occlusion is often from a combination of information from school, journals, lectures and experience. Dr. Gordon Christiansen said in the February 2004 issue of Dentistry Today: "Dentists are afraid of occlusion . . . there is extreme controversy about what concept of occlusion is correct, and I do not see any relief to that controversy." Occlusion is a discipline that you learn over time and should never stop learning during your entire career.

Occlusal Philosophies
- Bioesthetics-Bob Lee, Hottstetler
- Gnathology-Ballard, Steward, McCullom
- Centric Relation-Peter Dawson
- Functional-John Kois 10 yrs old
- Neuromuscular-Jankelson, Dickerson, LVI

"After many years as a practicing prosthodontist, teacher, and researcher, and after experimentation with almost all concepts of occlusion, I can candidly state that it is not the concept of occlusion that allows success, it is the knowledge and experience and the clinical skills and honesty of the clinician that are important factors to success with occlusion. Therefore, no matter what your philosophy of treatment is, the study of occlusion is a never-ending process with one goal in mind, providing the best treatment for all patients."

What do I think?
- You need a philosophy that is patient centered.
- You need to decrease force factors.
- You need to educate the patient.
- Protect your case.
- Test your prosthesis!!!
- Provisonals teach you occlusion.
- Shallow Guidance keeps you safe.

Dialogues:

Mrs. Jones, now that we have successfully given you a smile you are proud of. We would like to discuss ways of taking this prototype and really kicking it up a notch. Would you like to hear about this?

Notes: