



## Case Report

# Orthodontics Miniscrews to Correct an Anchorage Loss: Case Report

Houb-Dine A<sup>1\*</sup> and Zaoui F<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>DDS, PhD student, Faculty of medicine and pharmacy, Mohammed V University, Rabat, Morocco<sup>2</sup>Chief of Orthodontics Department, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Mohammed V University Rabat, Morocco

**\*Address for Correspondence:** HOUB-DINE A, DDS, PhD student, Faculty of medicine and pharmacy, Mohammed V University, Rabat, Morocco, Email: afafeve@hotmail.com

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## ABSTRACT

The recent introduction of the miniscrew in orthodontics revolutionized the clinical and biomechanical approach of anchoring. Used as direct or indirect anchoring, the orthodontic micro screws indications field is expanding due to their easy insertion, and their immediate loading ensuring an absolute anchoring. Our objective through this clinical case is to show the effectiveness of these miniscrews in the correction of the uncontrolled loss of anchoring.

## INTRODUCTION

Anchorage control is one of the most important keys for achievement of success in clinical orthodontics. Anchorage loss is defined as the unplanned and unexpected movement of the anchor teeth during orthodontic treatment [1]. The mesial movement of the molars in the sagittal plane, but also vertical and transverse. It may be desired or uncontrolled called also therapeutic when this controlled anchorage loss can treat a class II division 1 with or without extractions by the management of anterosuperior and posteroinferior anchoring [2].

The uncontrolled loss of anchorage means a downward revision of the therapeutic objectives involving the quality of the occlusal finishing. To get the appropriate anchorage, numerous anchorage devices are proposed and used for more than a century. Extra oral anchorages such as headgears or facemasks are the most powerful tools but they have a weak point that their effectiveness depends on the patient compliance [3]. Currently, orthodontic mini-implants, also called mini-screws or temporary anchorage devices (TAD) reduce the disadvantages of the conventional anchorage by providing an absolute anchorage, they provide additional therapeutic possibilities previously unattainable, especially in the vertical direction and in the case of posterior teeth missing [4]. The following case report will elucidate the effectiveness of the skeletal anchorage in the case of anchorage loss.

## CLINICAL CASE

Adolescent female, aged 16 years with a skeletal class II hyper divergent. She had a cleft lip, 14, 24, 35 and 44 were extracted as part of an interceptive treatment by extractions at the age of 12 years but not followed by orthodontic treatment because of noncooperation. The spaces are lost by protraction of the posterior teeth with persistence of dental class II and crowding (Figures 1-3).

The treatment objective was the alignment of teeth and the correction of the dental class II without performing extra extractions, attenuating the bite and establishing

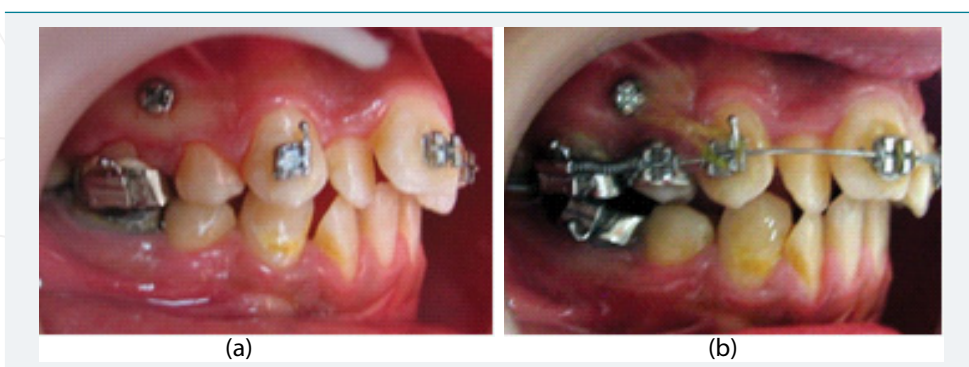
a functional occlusion. The therapeutic approach was then oriented towards the distalization of the upper molars. In the maxilla, posterior teeth were distalized by indirect anchorage: two vestibular miniscrews (Spider Screw anchorage system with 2 mm in diameter and 8 mm long) placed into the alveolar bone (Figure 3a) between the second premolars and first upper molars were connected via Niti coil springs to the canine (Figure 3b), which receives the reactive forces of tooth movement. The canine were retracted with elastic chains directly from the mini-implant (Figure 4). To prevent flaring of the anterior teeth, the archwires were ligated passively until space was created by moving the posterior teeth distally. The treatment time was 15 months, and the case was finished with a well-aligned dentition (Figures 5-7).



**Figure 1:** Pretreatment extraoral photographs of a 16-year-old female patient.



**Figure 2:** Initial intraoral photographs.



**Figure 3:** (a) Placement of the mini-implant between the second premolar and first upper molar. (b) Distalization of the posterior teeth by indirect anchorage.



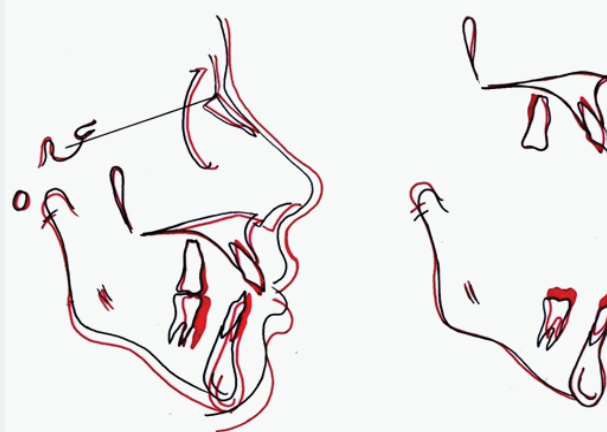
**Figure 4:** Intraoral photographs of mid treatment during molar distalization.



**Figure 5:** Posttreatment intraoral photographs.



**Figure 6:** Posttreatment extraoral photographs.



**Figure 7:** Superimposition of pre and post lateral cephalograms.

## DISCUSSION

Mini-implants are very small screw-like gadgets used more widely in orthodontic treatments. Orthodontics utilizing TAD might have advantages to treat some problems because they provide a fixed point from which to apply a force to move teeth. They can be placed in many different sites within the mouth.

In our case report, the miniscrews insertion and retrieval procedures were quick, simple, and painless. They retained their stability during treatment and were used straight away without consolidation period. There was no inflammation, bleeding, or excessive pain in the tissues adjacent to the screws and the results obtained are:

- Space gaining through distalization of upper molars by indirect anchorage
- Achievement of bilaterally Class I molar and canine relation without anterior proclination
- Comfort of the patient providing an alternative to wearing headgear without patient compliance.

- No vertical changes during upper molars distalization.
- Shorter treatment time.

Chandrakant Bangar et al. [5] think that Miniscrews and Distal Jet may be a solution. After the Distal Jet appliance has been placed and activated, palatal miniscrews are inserted between the roots of the first and second premolars, mesial to the activation locks attached to the anterior rests. The miniscrews block mesial movement of the appliance during distalization, thus preventing loss of anterior anchorage.

Antonarakis and Kiliaridis [6] found in their systematic review that tooth-borne distalizers could move maxillary molars distally on average 2.9 mm, however, the associated undesirable incisor mesial movement was 1.8 mm.

In our case, after distalization of the posterior teeth and creation of space to resolve anterior crowding and overjet, the alignment of the anterior teeth became a simple procedure without discernable forward movement of the anterior teeth and without possible deleterious effect on the facial profile. In the studies with comparable distalization techniques, the distal movements of the maxillary molars were from 3.9 to 6.4 mm [7,8], at the same time, the maxillary incisors remained stable. According to Lee JS. [9], when an orthodontic implant is used as anchorage, a space of 5 mm can be obtained by distalization of the posterior teeth predictably regardless of the cooperation of the patient.

The third molar extraction is required before distalization. Although the third molar may not always be a limitation but it may restrict the space available for the distalization of other molars, possibly posing a critical obstacle regardless of the developmental stage. Moreover, distalization increases the possibility of third molar impaction and makes the extraction of the third molar more difficult [10,11].

## CONCLUSION

Orthodontic Mini implants offers many advantages when used as temporary anchorage devices like, easy placement and removal, immediate loading, can be used in a variety of locations, provide absolute anchorage, economic and requires less patient cooperation. This makes them as a necessary treatment option in cases with critical anchorage that would have otherwise resulted in anchorage loss if treated with conventional means of anchorage.

The upper molars distalization obtained in our case report of anchorage loss was a good technique. However, clinical research is recommended to establish more specific clinical guidelines.

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