Treatment of Impacted Canines with the Incognito™ Appliance System
by Dr. Esfandiar Modjahedpour

Working in a private orthodontic practice in Krefeld, Germany for approximately 15 years, I realized that there was an ever increasing interest by my patients – adolescents and adults alike – in options for more aesthetic orthodontic treatment. Therefore, I started to collect information about available aesthetic appliance systems and soon became interested in lingual therapy with the Incognito™ Appliance System in 2004. The major benefits of this system seemed to be a three-dimensional control over the movement of the teeth and its high quality: all parts, from brackets to archwires, are custom-made and the brackets produced in a patented digital procedure.

Since I was sure that invisible orthodontic treatment would be gaining additional importance in the years to come, I decided to devote myself to this innovative topic and followed a Master Course at the Medical University of Hanover, Germany. I completed it as a Master of Science in Lingual Orthodontics in 2008. I devoted my Master’s thesis to the topic “Concept for the treatment of impacted canines with an individual lingual appliance system.” And the comprehensive knowledge in lingual orthodontics has already proven its worth: today, I use the Incognito System in my orthodontic practice on a regular basis.

The following patient case will be used to describe an orthodontic treatment with the lingual appliance system.

Patient Case
The Incognito System is suited for all kinds of orthodontic therapy including the treatment of impacted teeth. Apart from third molars, the teeth most frequently impacted are the maxillary canines. Often, surgical exposure and orthodontic guidance are required during the treatment process.

Initial Situation
A 15-year-old female patient visited the orthodontic practice in Krefeld. During the first appointment, it became clear that she had a palatally impacted left maxillary canine tooth. Moreover, several teeth in the maxilla and mandible showed slight spacing and mild misalignment (Figures 1 to 4). After discussion of the treatment options with the young patient and her parents, it was decided to use the Incognito System for corrections in the maxilla due to aesthetic reasons: the young patient wanted braces that were invisible to others.
As you know if you have read my introductory articles here, or have visited our 3M Unitek websites, I have been in treatment with the Incognito™ Appliance System since March of 2011. My progress has gone quite well, and by this year’s annual AAO meeting, I will be ready to have the braces taken off. I have been impressed by the speed of treatment and my easy adaptation to the customized Incognito Braces, and as a bonus, the fact that few people noticed I was wearing them.

Aesthetic treatment is important to a growing number of people, especially adults. Incognito Braces are an excellent aesthetic solution not only because they are “hidden” braces on the lingual side of the teeth, but also because the system works around the clock to keep treatment on schedule. Offering Incognito lingual braces can be a practice differentiator when patients choose among offices, while letting you maintain direct control over your patients’ treatment. They can be used for even the most difficult of cases, from start to excellent finish.

The same can be said for our Clarity™ brand family of aesthetic braces. These ceramic braces have been proven in use worldwide, and offer both traditional and self-ligating styles. The recently introduced Clarity™ ADVANCED Ceramic Brackets offer enhanced aesthetics with a small size and new ceramic material that blends with tooth color for an almost unnoticeable presence. Whatever the treatment requirement, you can trust 3M Unitek as your choice for aesthetics.

You can find out more about the Incognito Appliance System in our first story related to treatment of impacted canines, which is followed by an announcement of the new Incognito™ Lite Appliance System, designed for fast and simple treatment of mild to moderate cases. You’ll also find an introduction to our new Unitek™ Treatment Management Portal | TMP. Unitek TMP is advanced orthodontic software for digital model management and treatment planning, that can also work hand in hand with the Incognito System. Other topics in this issue include a case that uses Unitek™ Temporary Anchorage Devices (TADs), bracket placement with the MBT™ Versatile+ Appliance System, a Forsus™ Class II Corrector case, Transbond™ IDB Adhesive, and more.

Altogether, I think you will find this information-packed issue well worth your time to read.

P.S. If you would like to review the updated story of my treatment, visit www.HiddenBraces.com, or follow the story on Facebook.com/HiddenBraces or YouTube.com/HiddenBraces. And if you are headed to the AAO meeting in Hawaii, stop by our booth. I’ll look forward to seeing you there.
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