

Spring 1999

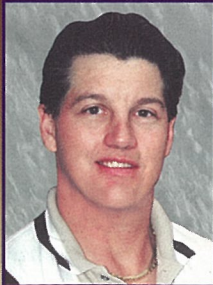
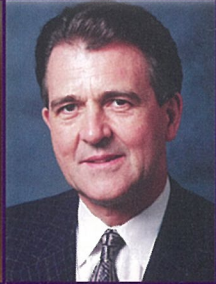
# Orthodontic Perspectives

*Clinical information for the orthodontic professional*

⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮ A 3M Unitek Publication

Volume VI No. 1 ⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮⋮

## Successful Bonding



# “Speaking of Aesthetics with Clarity™ Brackets”

by Steven M. Guelff, D.M.D., P.A.



*Dr. Guelff attended Dental School at the University of Florida, and studied Orthodontics at Howard University. In private practice since 1995, he has three offices in Florida, located in Sebring, Avon Park, and Lake Placid.*

ORTHODONTICS  
CHILDREN • ADULTS • TMJ  
STEVEN M. GUELFF, D.M.D., P.A.

It wasn't too long ago that when a patient asked about aesthetic appliances, I tried to tell them I preferred to use the metal appliance for a number of reasons. "Ceramic" brackets took longer to treat the case. They broke during treatment. It always took longer to treat the case, and there was a distinct possibility that we might even have to take them off and replace them with the metal appliance to finish their treatment. And of course, they would cost the patient "a little more". Sound familiar?

The introduction of the Clarity bracket system has totally revolutionized my practice. I continually remind my 3M Unitek sales representative about how many Clarity brackets I'm using and how happy I am with the results. I have a very busy practice in central Florida and am now very pleased to accommodate my patient base by being able to treat patients with ceramic brackets that work. I am surprised that I still receive second opinion consults from orthodontists who still refuse to use ceramics for the reasons I've already mentioned.

As the 21st century fast approaches, we must continue to put our patients first. Aesthetics is really what we as orthodontists are "selling", we are creating smiles. In many instances, we are also transforming the personalities of the patients we treat. I'm convinced that there are some young patients that actually would prefer to have aesthetic appliances, but may even be too shy to ask for them. In these situations, I will sympathetically suggest that they might really like our new "see through" braces. It works and you can watch that young patient glow after they decide, "Yes!"

Clinically I have no complaints with Clarity metal-lined ceramic brackets. Space closure is just about as fast as with metal appliances. I have no problem with the torquing integrity of the bracket system. And debonding is absolutely a breeze. Overall, I have to rate Clarity brackets an A+. Here's to 3M Unitek for a job well done. There is really no other ceramic or plastic appliance that works as well for me. And aesthetics has helped me to continue to grow my practice. ■

13

