

FIGURE 24.

(A). The radiograph shows the root filled 13 with a temporary crown. A prefabricated serrated titanium post with a composite core has been chosen as a retainer.

(B). Two implant supported crowns in the region of 15 and 14 and a tooth supported crown on 13 are about to be cemented. The crown on 13 has canine guidance. Is this advisable in view of the status of the tooth?
(C). After a slight grinding adjustment of the crown on 13 an anterior guidance has been created.





Canine guidance

It is an advantage if the canines are not incorporated in a prosthetic reconstruction, because then one can make use of the canine's capability of lifting the entire dentition in lateral slides. Canine protection in the truest sense occurs if there are nearly intact canines capable of lifting the dentition during lateral and protrusive excursions, relieving a compromised front.

In contrast, in the severely restored dentition the situation may be as illustrated in figures 24 and 31, where a compromised canine needs protection. A canine guidance is therefore a better term.

Group function

When the maxillary incisors are missing or compromised, group function is sometimes used during lateral slides. In group function, both canines, incisors and posterior teeth participate on the working side during lateral slides. The posterior teeth that primarily participate are the premolars, and they partake early during lateral and protrusive excursions. Subsequently the contacts slide over to the canine and incisors.

Examination of lateral and protrusive excursions

In a severely restored dentition that has been allowed to develop without a continuous monitoring and adjustment it is not uncommon that a single pair of teeth will lift the dentition in protrusive or lateral slides. The teeth and dental materials may have worn against each other over the years so that the function has changed completely compared to the one that existed at the time the reconstruction was performed. The