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PERCEPTION OF PAIN DURING ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT WITH SELF-LIGATING BRACKETS

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This research is a descriptive clinical study designed to assess pain during orthodontic treatment with self-ligating brackets. This study was comprised of 39 patients (18 m, 21 f), mean age of 14 (range 11 to 19 yo). Two types of self-ligating brackets (SPEED n=20 and Damon n=19) were used. Pain was evaluated with a questionnaire for 4 weeks following the insertion of the first 4 orthodontic wires for each patient. The same questionnaire was used during each phase and included 6 different time-points following the insertion of each wire. The visual analogue scale (VAS) and the short version of Saint-Antoine's questionnaire were used to evaluate the pain. The perception of pain for patients with Damon brackets was significantly higher than for those with the SPEED brackets at the insertion of the third wire and three days after placement of the third wire. More patients took pain medication with the first wire and the majority of patients did not report a change in their quality of life. « Pulling » (tiraillement), « cramping » (étau), « throbbing » (élançement) and « annoying » (énervant) were the most frequently used words by the patients to describe their pain.