

Principles

The first section of this book presents aesthetic principles on which treatment planning is based. Because only one occlusal result is desirable, the great variability in treatment planning derives from attempts to achieve the best aesthetic result.

Herein lies the challenge and the art of orthognathic surgery: making decisions of what to do. It is a challenge because it must be based on the aesthetic sense of the surgeon and not on rigid cephalometric guidelines. If the proper aesthetic judgments are made, a treatment plan is derived from which no deviation need occur. An aesthetic road map can be brought into the operating room, and the operation becomes a mere technical exercise. The focus is, therefore, properly shifted away from how to do it, and emphasis is placed on what to do and why to do it.

PART

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