

What's Happening In The Lab?

Lab workflow, processes and systems:

- The number one thing you can do to help run an efficient clinic is to have clear due dates and boundaries around those due dates that the doctor and team understand and support.
- Be very clear about each step of the process so that everyone understands clearly how to submit a scan and due date for an appliance.

How to ensure quality especially with multiple team members:

- Training is key.
- Have a specific order of steps to follow.
- Appoint a lab manager to oversee the quality and to recommend training when needed.

How to keep things running smoothly with delivery time and communication:

- Draw a hard line on due dates.
- Make sure that the team is very clear with the patient about the appointments needed for the deband, retainer delivery and follow up visits.

Exciting technology and emerging trends:

- The scanner and 3D printers revolutionized the lab, however the possibility of having a machine cut out the retainer or aligner is going to be extremely helpful and time saving in the lab.
- Our guest was told that there may be technology coming out where you would not even need to print the model and a retainer could be made on an "imaginary" model. We will keep an eye out for this!

uLab as well as tips and tricks:

- Be sure the doctor provides a detailed description of the case and the goals. Set up the case and have the doctor review the case. Give yourself plenty of time to produce the aligners.
- Calibrate your 3D printers regularly.
- Be sure that your clear retainer/aligner material does not sit out in the air or light for too long and they could become brittle.
- Be sure that your "suck down" machine does not get too hot.

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