



Academy of Prosthodontics 2025 Annual Scientific Session
The Westin Kierland Resort and Spa, Scottsdale, AZ | May 28-31, 2025

Program Speaker – Amara Abreu-Serrano, DDS, MSD, FACP

Title

Management of the Lateral Incisor Area in Cleft Lip and Palate Patients

Abstract

Patients with cleft lip and palate present at least one dental anomaly in 96.7% of the cases. The lateral incisor can be missing, have a peg shape, or present abnormalities in tooth morphology requiring its extraction. Restoring the esthetic zone represents a major challenge when the teeth in the area are missing or are irregular in shape and size. Scaring tissue and abnormal frenum attachments can also be seen. The aim of this presentation is to demonstrate the significance of the interdisciplinary care, recognize the essential steps in diagnosis and treatment planning, and illustrate the prosthodontic alternatives to overcome the challenges involved in the restoration of the esthetic zone in patients with cleft lip and palate. Three different clinical scenarios will be presented, including the prosthodontic rehabilitation of the lateral incisor area after opening the restorative space, canine substitution of the missing tooth, and restoration of the existing lateral incisor

Learning Objectives

- Recognize the importance a dental team effort in the achievement of an optimal dental aesthetics in patients with cleft lip and palate.
- Identify the critical steps in diagnosing and planning individualized orthodontic-prosthodontic treatments for patients with cleft lip and palate, specifically related to the missing lateral incisor in the cleft area.
- Describe the effectiveness of different treatment alternatives in improving both functional and aesthetic outcomes for patients with cleft lip and palate.

Biography

Dr. Amara Abreu-Serrano is a Clinical Professor at the Department of Restorative Sciences, Adams School of Dentistry, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC). She received a Certificate in Prosthodontics, and a Post-doctoral Master's in Dental Sciences at the University of Puerto Rico in 2006. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics, a Fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists, and a member of OKU and the Pierre Fauchard Academy. She served in several leadership roles at the Dental College of Georgia, Augusta University, where she spent 17 years of her career. Since August 2024, Dr. Abreu serves as the Program Director of the Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics at UNC. She is a member of the Editorial Review Board of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* and the *Journal of Prosthodontics* and is a reviewer for other peer-review publications. Her clinical practice involves fixed, removable and implant prosthodontics, including the treatment of patients with craniofacial deformities.