

# Scope of Dental Photography – An Overview

Vinod Nair Sreekumar

**Abstract:** *The benefit of creating top notch dental photos has been perceived by more dental professionals, both to improve their patient records and forestall suit, especially in the field of corrective dentistry and orthodontics. As of late with the appearance of computerized photography the vital camera set ups for clinical utilize have turned out to be less demanding to utilize, more accessible and moderate. With reasonable training, any individual from the dental group is equipped for taking high quality and repeatable pictures.*

**Keywords:** Dental Photography, Digital, Pre-planning, Innovation

## 1. Introduction

Customary dental diagramming strategies have served the calling great for ages, in any case, they do have confinements. Notwithstanding the current coming of electronic adaptations of these graphs and computer programs various dental clinical conditions and pathologies are to a great degree hard to record with outlining, words, draws or charts. These incorporate early caries, the degree of decay, faulty restorations and marginal deficiencies, tooth surface loss, demineralisation, attrition, erosion and abrasion. Fractures, wear, and facets can be recorded pictorially, exhibiting the degree of harm as 'one picture tells a thousand words'. With simple camera set ups, any individual from the dental group is capable of taking high quality and resolution pictures.

An astounding clinical photo will show highlights, for example, cracks, surface characteristics, pits, fissures and discolouration translucencies and opacities saving money on a huge measure of composed and potentially off base depictions. Dental photos are of specific incentive in recording periodontal and gingival conditions. The severity of inflammation, colour and pathology of soft tissues can be seen and used as a reference to compare the results of treatment and motivate patients

Clinical photography can change the nature of clinical record keeping and capture points of interest that would be troublesome or difficult to record in some other way. The reproduction procedure can be troublesome and is made considerably simpler if pre-and post-surgical photos are accessible to keep any number of unfortunate situations, misunderstandings and complaints. It is judicious never to complete any tooth brightening without a pre-treatment photograph with a shade tab set up, as 'evidence of the pudding' that the bleaching has worked, since a few patients appear to have short recollections and others guarantee the brightening has 'worn off'. In dento-legitimate cases it is fundamental that we don't depend on our memory alone – not unusually numerous months or years will have hung loose of treatment and the minute when the snippets of data are required.<sup>1</sup>

### Malpractice prevention

The best reason for malpractice misfortunes is lacking patient records. Dental excellence, intensive case histories and treatment designs are significant, and the supplementation of patient records with clinical records can be the contrast amongst festivity and catastrophe.

As confirmation in medico-legal cases including charges of malpractice, photos will give coordinate verification with regards to the state of the mouth, teeth, gingival condition and delicate tissues when treatment.

### **Medico-legal reports**

At the point when called upon to present a medico-legal report for insurance, legal or accident cases, clinical photos that supplement the detailed and precisely documented report go about as a significant guide to the parties concerned. These photos should obviously demonstrate the seriousness and degree of the wounds maintained with legitimate depictions to help show the condition or multifaceted nature, to people who may have almost no information of dentistry. Communication is the way to evading issues and making progress in dental practice, and additionally staying away from debate and conceivable protests with consequent prosecution.

Precise and complete clinical records are required and supplementary fantastic clinical photographic pictures will go far to maintaining a strategic distance from or keeping these possibly stressing and expensive actions taking place.

### **Role of Photography in Risk Management**

Uses of dental photography in Risk Management include<sup>2</sup>:

- As benchmark records, recording tooth position and impediment
- For recording advancement and improvement
- To enhance any referral correspondence
- As a component of a clinical review
- As an extra to assent process
- In tolerant instruction and correspondence
- For research centre correspondence
- As self-training.

## 2. Conclusion

It is completely basic to invest energy disclosing treatment to patients, instructing those concerning issues, and acquiring consent. Reasonable clinical photos give an exact pictorial record of the underlying clinical circumstance. For example there can be no contention in the matter of how extreme the first malocclusion was or what changes have happened through the advance of treatment<sup>3,4</sup>.

## References

- [1] John Makin, Dental Advisor DDU, personal communication.
- [2] Orr C. *Digital photography. Riskwise edition 32.* London: Dental Protection Ltd, 2007.
- [3] Sandler J, Murray A. *Clinical photography in an orthodontic practice environment.* 2010.
- [4] *Orthodontic Update* 2010.

