ABSTRACT

Traumatic injuries to anterior teeth in children range from minor chipping to total tooth loss and occur more often in boys than in girls. The treatment of permanent tooth loss in younger patients is complicated by the difficulty of doing restorative procedures which may be influenced by pulpal size, clinical crown height, and a dental profile which is constantly changing. This case report presented a situation involving a 9-year-old boy who had experienced traumatic loss of the maxillary central incisors. Innovative materials coupled with sound principles of removable partial denture design were utilized to fabricate a cast metal removable denture prosthesis to satisfy the esthetic, functional and psychological dental needs of the patient and his parents.

KEY WORDS
Trauma, mixed dentition, esthetics

ABSTRACT

Clinical studies are of paramount importance for testing and translation of the research findings to the community. Despite the existence of clinical studies, a significant delay exists between the generation of new knowledge and its application into the medical/dental community and their patients. One example is the repair of defective dental restorations. About 75% of practitioners in general dental practices do not consider the repair of dental restorations as a viable alternative to the replacement of defective restorations. Engaging and partnering with health practitioners in the field on studies addressing everyday clinical research questions may offer a solution to speed up the translation of the research findings. Practice-based research (PBR) offers a unique opportunity for practitioners to be involved in the research process, formulating clinical research questions. Additionally, PBR generates evidence-based knowledge with a broader spectrum that can be more readily generalized to the public. With PBR, clinicians are involved in the entire research process from its inception to its dissemination. Early practitioner interaction in the research process may result in ideas being more readily incorporated into practice. This paper discusses PBR as a mean to speed up the translation of research findings to clinical practice. It also reviews repair versus replacement of defective restorations as one example of the delay in the application of research findings to clinical practice.

KEY WORDS
Practice-based, evidence-based, defective restorations, repair restorations, replace restorations