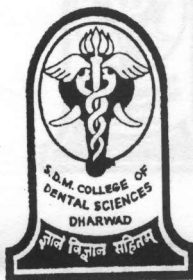


“ANTHROPOMETRIC NORMS OF FACIAL AESTHETICS IN INDIAN POPULATION”



Dissertation Submitted to the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health
Sciences, Bangalore, in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Master of Dental Surgery,
in the Specialty of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

March 2000

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A person's ability to identify a beautiful face is innate, but translating this into defined treatment goals is problematic. Recognizing beauty is not practiced nor is it difficult. The perception of beauty can also be based upon an individual's preference with the cultural bias. Artists and professionals have attempted to define and create an ideal. They recognize beauty, yet objective standards are difficult, despite unending attempts to clarify the concept.

As health professionals have increased their ability to change faces, conventional documentation of the soft tissues of the face. They have assumed the necessity to understand what is and what is not beautiful has intensified. Evaluation of facial esthetics is at best subjective because balance and harmony of facial components do not necessarily mean an attractive face. The facial skeleton and its soft tissue drape determine facial harmony and balance. The architecture and topographic relationships of the facial skeleton form a "foundation" on which the esthetics of the face is based. However, it is the structure of the overlying soft tissues and their relative proportions that provide the visual impact of the face.

Clinicians play a pivot role in their treatment methods in order to influence the facial esthetics. But, a patient judges the final outcome of a treatment be it orthodontic or surgical, from the improvement in the facial esthetics that result from the treatment. Since it is impossible to quantify an attribute like beauty, the field of surgical orthodontics concentrated on quantifying various linear and angular measurements in assessing the