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UNIVERSITY

**The Clinical Efficiency of Fixed Functional Space
Maintainer and Fixed Non Functional Space Maintainer :
— A Comparative Study**

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Dissertation submitted to Kuvempu University in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the award of **MASTER OF DENTAL SURGERY** in the
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(Space management of the dental arch to ensure optimal dental development is but one facet of the preventive - interceptive orthodontic concept. It is probably one of the most important aspects of dental care from birth to 12 years of age.)

Ideally, as the occlusion develops from the primary dentition to the permanent dentition, a sequence of events occur in an orderly and timely fashion. These events result in a functional, esthetic and stable occlusion. However, when this sequence is disrupted, there arise problems that may affect the ultimate occlusal status of the permanent dentition, when such disruption does occur, appropriate corrective measures are needed to restore the normal process of occlusal development.

The harmful effects of premature loss of one or more primary teeth vary in patients of the same age and stage of eruption. The commonest cause of premature loss of primary teeth is dental caries.

Space loss or arch length loss can be produced by a shortening of any of the segments within the arch. The arc of the arch is decreased, with mesial migration of the permanent molars or with lingual migration or inclination of the incisors or buccal segments of the arch.