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| **Name:** |
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| **Group:** |
| 2B-3 |
| **Basic Science Question:** |
| In eccentric movements, how does anterior teeth function differ from that of posterior teeth? |
| **Report:** |
| An eccentric movement is essentially any movement of the mandible from the intercuspal position that leads to tooth contact. With any eccentric movement, tooth contacts may happen. There are four types of eccentric contacts: retrusive, mediotrusive, protrusive, and laterotrusive. The anterior teeth and posterior teeth have different anatomy, orientation, and functions. The anterior teeth function in anterior guidance, incision or initiating mastication, articulation of sound, and esthetics. Anterior guidance is a crucial function because anterior teeth contacts provide guidance or stability of the mandible. Anterior tooth contact during eccentric movements protect the posterior teeth because they provide disocclusion. The posterior teeth function in breaking up food during mastication while maintaining vertical dimension of occlusion. They also protect the anterior teeth because of the amount of force delivered along the long axis. This patient is lacking the support from posterior tooth contacts; therefore, causing the anterior teeth to occlude and overjet.  |
| **References:** |
| 1. Dr. Benson Lecture: Eccentric Contacts
2. Okeson, J. P. (1985). Allignment and Occlusion of the Dentition. In *Fundamentals of occlusion and temporomandibular disorders* (pp. 56-57). St. Louis: C.V. Mosby.
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