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**ABSTRACT  
FORM**

TITLE	<b>TREATMENT PLANNING THE REMOVAL OF HEALTHY TEETH: ORTHODONTIC EXTRACTIONS – THE GREAT CONTROVERSY</b>
Author(s)	<u>Kevyn R. Wetzel</u> , U.S. Army Dental Corps, Fort Irwin, California, USA
Abstract:	<p>One of the primary considerations in any orthodontic treatment plan is whether teeth will be removed to achieve the finished orthodontic objective. The debate over removing healthy teeth for orthodontic purposes has gone full circle in the last century and continues to invite controversy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Despite material advances that make non-extraction therapy more realistic and easily achievable, the shift from Edward Angle's occlusion oriented paradigm to the aesthetically driven soft tissue paradigm has dictated a more individualized approach to orthodontic treatment. Based on training and experience, orthodontic practitioners may develop their own preference for or against extractions in orthodontic treatment planning. In reality it is entirely possible for two practitioners to treat similar malocclusions, one with extractions and one without extractions, and both achieve an aesthetic and functional result. Nevertheless, the decision to extract teeth should be an individualized decision based on the patient's growth pattern, facial aesthetics, and physiologic constraints.</p> <p>Key Words: Orthodontics, Exodontia</p>