

Research Aid Award

Dr. Wendy Vu, *University of Toronto*

Dr. Wendy Vu is an orthodontic resident at the University of Toronto. She received her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of Alberta. She practiced general dentistry in a private dental clinic setting.

The proposed study is retrospective in design, utilizing a chart review of 1883 cases completed at the University of Toronto, Graduate Orthodontic Clinic from January 2012 – February 2020. It aims to identify specific patient variables that influences the clinician's decision to extract or not extract, through discriminant analysis. Using this method, a sample of 60 Class I and Class II borderline extraction cases will be elucidated and analyzed. The effects of premolar extractions for orthodontic purposes on profile esthetics will be explored using a survey of general dentists, orthodontists, and lay people. The quality of the occlusal result will be analyzed using model analysis.



Orthodontic education will benefit from this award as the results of this study will allow for a better understanding of variables that take precedence in the clinician's decision to extract. Furthermore, the information obtained from analyzing the esthetic and occlusal outcomes can aid clinicians in their decision to extract premolars for orthodontic treatment.

The Research Aid Award from the Foundation is important to this project as it will fund expenses primarily related to a statistician, as statistics is an integral part of the project.

The Foundation funding will benefit my orthodontic career as its support will encourage me to pursue my objective of inspiring other residents through part time academia in the future.