



# Journal of Nepalese Prosthodontic Society (JNPS)

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## Editor in Chief

Dr. Amar Bhochhibhoya

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September 25, 2023

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Dear Dr. Bhochhibhoya:

As an advisor to the team, it is my greatest pleasure to congratulate you on the most recent issue of the Journal of Nepalese Prosthodontic Society. The JNPS provides the Nepalese Prosthodontic community with outstanding cutting-edge articles of direct relevance to their clinical practice. It has been my distinct pleasure to participate in the recent 2022 NPS meeting and also to reconnect with my friends in Nepal during a 2023 vacation visiting some of the most beautiful locations in Nepal.

I anticipate that the JNPS will go from strength to strength under your leadership, providing the foundation for contemporary prosthodontics in your region.

Sincerely,

Stephen F. Rosenstiel, B.D.S., M.S.D.  
Professor Emeritus  
Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry

## Applications of the curve of Spee in Prosthodontics

**Amar Bhochhibhoya**

Editor-in- Chief, Journal of Nepalese Prosthodontic Society (JNPS)

A profile view of human skull reveals an upward, concave curve in the mandibular teeth extending from molars to canines and corresponding downward, convex curve in the maxillary arch. These peculiarities of the geometric arrangement of the teeth were first described by Ferdinand Graf von Spee in 1890, referred to as 'Curve of Spee'.<sup>1</sup> Andrews LF<sup>2</sup> considered the curve of Spee to be one of the six characteristics of normal occlusion. There are various clinical significances of the curve of Spee in the reconstructive dentistry. It is suggested that this geometric arrangement of natural dentition is essential for maintaining optimum tooth contacts during mastication and food processing and it is considered as an important factor in denture construction. It is critical for the construction of stable complete dentures and might play a role in the success of tooth supported fixed partial dentures and implant-supported restorations.<sup>3</sup> The curve of Spee is one of the critical components of the Hanau's Quint. In complete denture prosthodontics, establishing a curve of Spee in harmony with the condylar guidance, incisal guidance, plane of occlusion, and prosthetic tooth cusp height is essential for developing a bilaterally balanced articulation, believed to maintain optimal denture stability.<sup>4</sup> In the prosthodontic rehabilitation of the natural dentition, the treatment goal is a mutually protected occlusion, whereby the posterior teeth disclude during eccentric functional movements. The curve of Spee, in conjunction with posterior cusp height, condylar inclination, and anterior guidance, plays an important role in the development of the desired occlusal scheme.<sup>5</sup> Proper construction of orientation as well as the depth of curve of Spee may be important during full-mouth rehabilitation of worn out dentition for achieving harmonious occlusion and also for the longevity of the restorations. Since prosthodontists construct a curve of Spee for proper functional occlusion, an in-depth understanding of curve of Spee and knowledge regarding its relation with dentofacial anatomy is essential.

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## Original Articles

---

1. **Effect of Increasing Occlusal Vertical Dimension on Smile Parameters** ..... 51  
Pahari S, Pradhan Joshi S, Shrestha P, Sah S, Verma A
2. **An Evaluation of the Curve of Spee in the Maxilla and Mandible of Human Permanent Healthy Dentitions: A Cross Sectional Analytical Study in a Group of Nepalese Population**..... 63  
Dhital S, Ghimire B, Basnet BB, Shrestha B
3. **Tooth and Gingival Display at Posed and Spontaneous Smile** ..... 69  
Devkota G, Pradhan Joshi S, Shrestha P, Sah S, Verma A
4. **An Evaluation of Partially Edentulous Patients Visiting Kantipur Dental College: A Hospital-Based Study** ..... 80  
Shrestha B, Shrestha S, Sah MP, Karmacharya R, Miya N, Ghimire B

## Review Article

---

5. **Denture Cleansing the Natural Way: A Review** ..... 85  
Shrestha S, Shrestha BR

## Case Reports

---

6. **Marginal Mandibulectomy Defect Rehabilitated with Cast Partial Denture: A Case Report** ..... 92  
Pathak B, Sitaula BB, Parajuli PK, Suwal P
7. **Cu sil Denture for Rehabilitation of Ectodermal Dysplasia** ..... 97  
Maharjan S, Basnet BB, Parajuli PK, Suwal P, Luitel A
8. **Management of Flabby Maxillary Anterior Ridge: A Case Report** ..... 101  
Gurung SM, Pathak B, Devkota D
9. **Porosity in the Final Denture-A heartbreak !** ..... 105  
Maskey B, Khanal G

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