ABSTRACT
A simple yet innovative attaching the J-hook along with an rapid maxillary appliance for the protraction of maxilla is presented. The proposed method not only simplifies construction but also is equally effective.

Keywords: J-hook, RME, Face mask.


INTRODUCTION
Face mask therapy is often supplemented with maxillary expansion. Midfacial orthopedic expansion has been recommended for use in conjunction with protraction forces on the maxilla because it supposedly disrupts the circum-maxillary sutural systems and presumably facilitates the orthopedic effect of the face mask.1

Normally, J-shaped hook is soldered to the wire component of bonded rapid maxillary expander (RME) for attachment of elastics from the face mask for protraction of maxilla along with expansion. A modified technique of placement of J-shaped hook attached to the RME appliance is presented.

PROCEDURES
1. Form a J-hook at the one end of the 0.9 mm diameter stainless steel wire and further insert it into a weldable Begg’s buccal tube (Fig. 1) and weld it (Fig. 2).

2. Stabilize the J-hook on the RME appliance by using sticky wax.

3. Instead of soldering the J-hook to the archwire of RME, acrylize the ends and surface of Begg’s buccal tube by chemical-cure acrylic (Fig. 4).

Corresponding Author: Prafful Kumar, Postgraduate Student Department of Orthodontics, KVG Dental College and Hospital, Sullia, Karnataka, India, Phone: 08257233148, e-mail: krprafful@gmail.com
CONCLUSION

1. This simple modification of attachment of J-hook to an RME appliance prevents the probability of breakage at the soldered joint of the J-hook.
2. It allows easier fabrication of different lengths of hooks according to the vestibular depth and comfort of the individual patient.

REFERENCE