

1. What cases can be treated?

The ASTICS™ wire can be applied to multiple retainer designs. Currently, the most common designs are the soldered Hawley and the Wrap-Around retainer. The ASTICS™ wire can also be used in Spring retainers where springs are incorporated in the acrylic baseplate. Therefore, according to the condition of the patient's teeth, a suitable retainer design may be prescribed with the understanding that adjustability can only be imparted at the U-loops and not at the labial portion of the wire.

2. What happens if the wire breaks?

If wire breakage occurs, contact the laboratory immediately for a wire change. The broken ASTICS™ wire and the metal connectors will be removed from the soldered joint at the Adam's clasps and replaced.

3. What happens if the wire crazes?

When excessive crazing or whitening of the wire is observed, it should be replaced as described above in question 2.

4. How much adjustability is there in the appliance?

At chair side, the orthodontist is able to effectively adjust the fit of the ASTICS™ retainer through the U-loops.

5. What should I avoid doing to the appliance?

When adjusting the appliance, refrain from clamping the soldered joint of the metal connector. If adjustment of the height of the labial bow is necessary, do not clamp on the ASTICS™ wire; instead adjust the height of the wire from the metal connectors.

6. What special advice should I give to patients?

Always remind the patients to remove the appliance by first dislodging the Adam's clasps. Appliance removal should proceed from the back of the mouth to the front. Emphasize the importance of not pulling down on the ASTICS™ wire during the process of removal.

7. Any precautions needed while cleaning the retainer?

The ASTICS™ wire should not be brushed. Instead, the wire should be gently wiped down.

8. How long is the appliance expected to last?

The ASTICS™ retainer is currently undergoing clinical testing to determine the lifespan of the appliance.