

LOAD TESTING USING A LUCIA JIG

ONE OF THE MOST PRACTICAL USES FOR LOAD TESTING IS THAT IT IS A FAST, SIMPLE, AND SAFE PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING WHETHER AN INTRACAPSULAR STRUCTURAL DISORDER IS OR IS NOT A SOURCE OF OROFACIAL PAIN.*

The Lucia Jig is ideal to load test because it de-programs the muscles which allows the condyles to seat in the most superior position. The Lucia Jig separates the posterior teeth which allows the lateral pterygoid to release, and when the lateral pterygoid releases, the condyle seats.

For this procedure, ACU-flow™ is used. It is a syringeable poly vinyl siloxane material with a 15 second working time, 45 second intra-oral setting time, and a maximum total cure time of 1 minute.

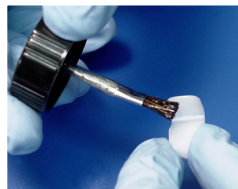
Use the standard Class I jig to determine the vertical opening. The Class II jig is used if there are several millimeters (more than 2.5mm) between the posterior teeth to reduce the vertical opening.

For patients with very irregular mandibular incisors, use the Lucia Jig on the lower incisors. It will function in the same way against the maxillary incisors.

*Dawson, P. *Functional Occlusion, From TMJ to Smile Design*, Mosby Elsevier 2007

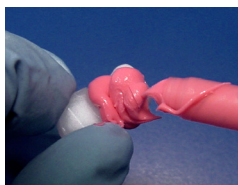
STEP 1

Paint the curved surface of the jig with a small amount of silicone tray adhesive.



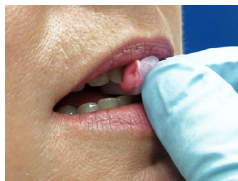
STEP 2

Dispense ACU-flow™ material into the curved portion of the jig.



STEP 3

Place the jig on the upper centrals and place the Whale Tail directly beneath the jig. Ask the patient to bite down and hold.



The Whale Tail levels and orients the jig to the occlusal plane. It parallels the jig with the occlusal plane anteriorly and posteriorly, and in a right and left direction as well. Allow to set - approximately 45 seconds.



Selecting the right Lucia Jig is based on the vertical opening of the posterior teeth. The vast majority of patients will use the Class I jig.

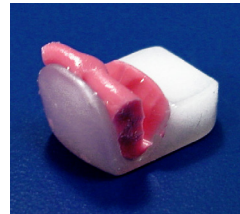
LOAD TESTING USING A LUCIA JIG

STEP 4

Once hard, remove the jig and the Whale Tail, and trim off the excess material with a lab knife.



Remove any material extending over the edges of the jig.



Place it back on the patient's upper centrals. Ask the patient to bite down onto the jig, slide forward, slide back, and squeeze. Repeat. Ask the patient if he or she feels any tenderness or tension. If the answer is no, the pterygoid is relaxed and the joint can support load comfortably.



If the answer is yes, the patient may require an additional period of time (possibly up to 20 minutes while maintaining light pressure on the jig) to allow the pterygoid to relax and the condyles to seat. If after that period of time, the discomfort persists, a joint problem may be indicated.

NOTE: You can take a centric relation bite record at this point (see the Lucia Jig Bite Registration instructions) or you can save the jig to take the CR bite record at another appointment.

An accurate centric relation bite record is essential for the Laboratory to correctly fabricate an appliance requiring occlusal coverage. It will reduce initial trimming and fitting adjustments, and save considerable chair time when seating the appliance.



Great Lakes[®]
DENTAL TECHNOLOGIES