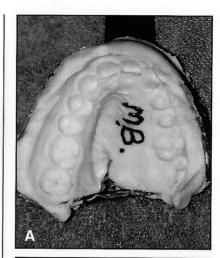
OPERRISO

(Editor's Note: If you have a clinical or practice management Pearl to share with your colleagues, send it to JCO, 1828 Pearl St., Boulder, CO 80302. Appropriate illustrations are welcome; a photograph of the author and a copyright transfer form are required prior to publication.)

Marking Patient Casts

n a busy orthodontic office, a patient's study casts can be labeled with the wrong name in the laboratory by the time the impression is poured. An easy way to prevent this problem is to mark the alginate impression with the patient's initials at the chair, immediately after the impression is taken. An indelible marking pencil is required; we use a Berol turquoise pencil (A).

The poured cast, when separated, will show a negative image of the initials. A mirror can be used if necessary for definitive identification. The cast can then be permanently labeled as usual (B).





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