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Table 1: Table showing mean importance ratings for each factor, in order of strongest importance. Responses from N=23 orthodontists

Factor	Frequency of responses (%)					Mean	SD
	Extremely unimportant	Very unimportant	Neither unimportant nor important	Very important	Extremely important		
The patient keeps appointments.				26	74	4.74	0.45
The patient cooperates with the use of removable dental appliances (such as retainers) and/or elastics.				30	70	4.70	0.47
The patient demonstrates excellent oral hygiene.				39	61	4.61	0.50
The patient is observed to be involved in treatment.			9	52	39	4.30	0.63
The patient has distorted or damaged wires and/or loose bands.			4	65	30	4.26	0.54
The patient arrives promptly at clinic.			13	65	22	4.09	0.60
The patient's behaviour is sullen, hostile, belligerent, or rude.			30	39	30	4.00	0.80
The patient complains about having to wear braces.			30	43	26	3.96	0.77
The patient has a negative view or perception of their malocclusion.			26	57	17	3.91	0.67
The patient is observed to be enthusiastic about treatment.		4	26	52	17	3.83	0.78
The patient complains about treatment procedures (procedures performed by the orthodontist).		9	30	43	17	3.70	0.88
The patient thinks that facial aesthetics are important.		9	35	43	13	3.61	0.84
The patient speaks of personal problems or demonstrates such problems.		9	48	39	4	3.39	0.72
The patient is pleasant to the clinic staff.	4		61	22	13	3.39	0.89