

Malocclusion and the Future of Orthodontics

Nabil Muhsen Al-Zubair*

Department of Orthodontics, Sana'a University, Yemen

*Corresponding author: Nabil Muhsen Al-Zubair, Department of Orthodontics, Sana'a University, P.O. Box 85, Sana'a, Yemen, Tel: +967 711751036; E-mail: dr.nabilmuhsen@gmail.com

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Editorial

Among the problems of dental public health worldwide, malocclusions are third in the ranking of priorities; however this condition has received more attention in recent decades due to the reduction of caries in children and adolescents. These conditions have increased the demand for orthodontic and restorative treatments in most countries.

Within the etiology of malocclusion, genetic factors are the mainly determinants of dentofacial structure in addition to environmental factors such as habits especially during growth and development.

Success for a lot of people is accompanied with good dental appearance. So, the concern for dental appearance has been observed during adolescents to early adulthood. The individual with malocclusion may feel shy in social contacts, may lose career opportunities and might feel shame about their dental appearance.

Badbite is the literal meaning of malocclusion and can be defined as an occlusion in which there is a malrelationship between the arches in any of the planes or in which there are anomalies in tooth position beyond the normal limits.

The future of orthodontics is challenging, as it creates big expectations for anyone involved. Does orthodontics, a speciality of dentistry that is about 100 years old, still have a future and how will this future look like?

The future of orthodontics will be a product of the scientific development and political and economic factors determining the delivery system. The past decennia have been characterized by a dramatic increase in the number of patients being treated. Most patients are treated in a standard regimen, which is rarely able to deliver the necessary force system for the more complicated cases.

The future of orthodontics is determined by several factors, only some of which are in the hands of the profession in the widest sense including the clinicians and the scientists working within both biology, development of orthodontic materials and informations.

With a decrease in caries, dentists saw orthodontics as a new challenge especially in relation to the public dental health systems.

With regard to treatment principles, the orthodontic therapy can be classified into several categories; one principle used in the correction of malocclusion in children is to influence growth in various ways, with fixed or removable appliances. Lack of knowledge on individual growth pattern and on the interaction with appliance, renders prediction of exact treatment results a difficult task with a low validity.

A second principle which may also indirectly contribute to the alteration of a dentoalveolar development in the growing individual is tooth movement. The third principle is the application of orthognathic surgery for the correction of malocclusions based on skeletal discrepancies judged to be out of reach by the two first principles.

In orthodontics, patients can be aided to understand the expected results of their orthodontic treatment by many innovations that have been introduced to the field. Such as:

Although self-ligating brackets are not new advancement in orthodontics, but rather it would make the advantages for patients of faster treatment, ideally less discomfort in tooth movement, the requirement for less office visits and archwire changes, while as yet delivering high quality treatment results.

Traditional metal dental braces can be substituted with Invisaligns which utilize a series of clear, removable teeth aligners. Although these personal methods of orthodontic treatment are not suggested for patients with severe misalignment it was increasingly becoming popular among teens and adults.

The cone beam processed tomography innovation permits the orthodontist to see his/her patient's face, jaws, and teeth in three dimensions (3D) rather than the conventional two-dimensional radiographs and photographs. This 3D imaging permits a more right diagnosis and treatment arrangement.

Patients who find headgear uncomfortable to wear, Miniscrews are temporary anchorage devices which can be utilized.

Imminent randomized clinical trials are obliged to bolster, with dependable scientific evidence, the cases about the impacts of these strategies. These advancements will give choices to you to get the most suitable method you seek.