ORTHOPEDIC ORTHODONTICS

For two case histories involving this, go to Anna’s Case and/or Frank’s Case.

SUBJECTS COVERED:

Self test
Facts about orthopedic orthodontics

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NON-EXTRACTION ORTHODONTICS TO OPTIMIZE STRUCTURAL ALIGNMENT.

SELF-TEST FOR ORTHOPEDIC ORTHODONTICS:

Pain: Is it painful to open or close your mouth? Do you have: facial pain, headaches, shoulder tension, or low back pain?

Clicking: Does your jaw click, grate, or make noises?

Bite: Do you have difficulty chewing or the feeling that your teeth don’t fit together right?

Jaw: Does your jaw deviate to one side when you open your mouth? Or is it difficult to open it all the way?

Respiratory: Do you have difficulty breathing through your nose or wake up in the morning with a dry mouth?

Infections: Do you have reoccurring sinus or ear infections?
Posture: Do you have poor head, neck, and back posture?

Ears: Do you have ringing in your ears, dizziness, or difficulty clearing your ears?

Orthodontics: Did you ever have orthodontics, undergo extraction of teeth, or wear headgear?

Dental: Do you have several root canals, many crowns, or a complex dental history?

Note that these symptoms have numerous causes and may be unrelated

FACTS ABOUT ORTHOPEDICS AND ORTHODONTICS:

When braces and other orthodontic therapies are done in conjunction with extraction of permanent teeth and without knowledge of how the jaws and bite affect the entire body, compression of the cranial bones and structural misalignment can occur. Orthopedic orthodontics avoids these side effects.

ORTHOPEDICS is a medical science of structural alignment. The orthopedic model of the body allows for cranial bones moving at their sutures, allowing widening or lengthening of the jaw to complete normal development.

ORTHODONTICS is a dental procedure to properly align teeth.

Together, orthopedic orthodontics align the teeth and jaw to optimize structural alignment and to minimize destructive forces on the teeth, jaw joints, and spine.

Orthopedic orthodontics minimizes the chances of losing permanent teeth, including wisdom teeth. It can also minimize jaw and tooth pain, abscessed teeth, headaches, and back pain over the life of the patient.

Orthopedic orthodontics uses functional appliances to
correct the jaw and braces to correct the teeth.

During treatment, the patient receives therapy from an osteopath, chiropractor, physical therapist, or massage therapist to assure proper alignment of the body with the jaw.

The proper alignment of the head, neck, and jaw can allow for better breathing patterns, open up the nasal cavities, and decrease allergies and sinus infections.

Orthopedic orthodontics can correct improper jaw relationships, twists in the bite, overbites, speech problems, crooked or crowded teeth, and swallow patterns. The key to a stable bite is a proper swallow, where the tongue acts as a retainer to maintain proper jaw width. In fact, an improper tongue thrust can be the cause of protruding, crowded, or crooked teeth.

The information contained herein has been obtained from a variety of sources. This document is presented to increase awareness of the topic and educate the general public. It is not intended to be an extensive discussion of this subject, or to provide specific treatment guidelines.

REFERENCES

- **Names of teeth**: the names and numbers given to teeth in the Palmer notation.
- **Teeth to Body Chart**: relation between specific teeth and joints, vertebrae, organs, endocrine glands, tissue systems, sense organs, and others.
- **Tooth/Muscle Chart**: relation between specific teeth and various muscles throughout the human body.