

Etiology of Malocclusion

Identifying a malocclusion

- Chapters 1 and 5
- "Contemporary orthodontics" by Proffit, WR, 4th ed.
- <u>http://ohsu-eres.lib.pdx.edu/courseindex.asp</u>
- <u>www.ohsu.edu/library</u> → Electronic resources → Electronic reserves (ERes) → Electronic reserves and course materials → select "school of dentistry" → select SODORD732

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· No Password is set





History of Orthodontics

- Late 1800's: concept of occlusion was developed to make good prosthetic teeth
- Edward H. Angle:
 - Father of modern orthodontics.
 - Took the concept of prosthetic occlusion and extended it to the natural dentition.
 - Developed the classification system used today.

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Classification of teeth

- According to Angle: the key to occlusion was the maxillary 1st molar
- Class I (normal occlusion)
- Class I malocclusion
- Class II malocclusion
- · Class III malocclusion







Full cusp Class II molar



History of Orthodontics

- 1930's: extraction of teeth was suggested as a method to enhance facial esthetics and achieve stability
- After WWII: Cephalometric radiology allowed orthodontist to measure growth and treatment changes and define skeletal malocclusions

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Goals of modern orthodontists

• The creation of the best possible occlusal relationship within the framework of acceptable facial esthetics and stability of the result

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Components of malocclusion

- Crowding: the most significant contributor to malocclusion
- A-P problems: 2nd most prevalent finding

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- Vertical problems: open bites (black: white or Hispanic = 5:1) or deep bites (black: white or Hispanic = 1: 2)
- Transverse problem: relatively rare









Prevalence of malocclusion in Angle's classification

- Class I normal occlusion: 30%
- Class I malocclusion: 50-55%
- Class II malocclusion: 15%
- Class III malocclusion < 1%
- More class II in whites and more class III in Asians.
- Class III and open bite are more frequent in African than European populations

Need for orthodontic treatment

- 3 types of problems from protruding or malposed teeth:
 - Discrimination because of facial appearance
 - Problems with oral function: jaw movement, TMD, mastication, swallowing or speech
 - Greater susceptibility to trauma, periodontal disease, or tooth decay

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Specific causes of malocclusion

- · Disturbances in embryological development
- Skeletal growth disturbances
- Muscle dysfunction
- Acromegaly and hemimandibular hypertrophy
- Disturbances of dental development

Disturbances in embryological development

- Causes: range from genetic disturbances to specific environmental insults
- Teratogens: chemical and other agents capable of producing embryologic defects if given at the critical time
- <1% of children who need orthodontics had a disturbance in embryologic development as a major contributing cause.

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Disturbances in embryological development

13-cis Retinoic acid (Accutane) Retinoic acid syndrome: malformations virtually same as hemifacial microsomia, Treacher Collins syndrome Aspirin Cleft lip and palate Cigarette smoke (hypoxia) Cleft lip and palate
Aspirin Cleft lip and palate Cigarette smoke (hypoxia) Cleft lip and palate
Cigarette smoke (hypoxia) Cleft lip and palate
Dilantin Cleft lip and palate
Ethyl alcohol Central mid-face deficiency
Rubella virus Microphthalmia, cataracts, deafness
Thalidomide Malformations similar to hemifacial microsomia, Treacher Collins syndrome
Valium Cleft lip and palate
Vitamin D excess Premature suture closure
X-radiation Microcephaly

Thalidomide

- Introduced from Germany in 1957 but was never approved by FDA.
- Prescribed to pregnant women to combat morning sickness
- When taken in the 1st trimester, the child has various defects, including short limbs, hemifacial microsomia

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• Banned in 1960s





Skeletal growth disturbances

- · Fetal molding and birth injuries
 - Intrauterine molding: pressure against the face
 - Birth trauma to the mandible: use forceps in delivery



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Intrauterine molding

- an arm is pressed across the face in uterus, resulting in severe maxillary deficiency at birth
- a fetus' head is flexed tightly against the chest in uterus, preventing the mandible from growing forward normally.
 - related to a decreased volume of amniotic fluid.
 - extremely small mandible at birth, usually accompanied by a cleft palate

Childhood fractures of the jaw
75% of children with early fractures of the

mandibular condylar process have normal mandibular growth







Acromegaly and hemimandibular hypertrophy

- Anterior pituitary tumor secretes excessive amounts of growth hormone → excessive growth of the mandible → long mandible
- Even if the tumor is removed, the skeletal deformity persists and jaw surgery is necessary.



Disturbances of dental development

- Congenitally missing teeth
- Malformed or supernumerary teeth
- Fusion, gemination
 - Fusion: teeth with separate pulp chambers joined at the dentin
 - Gemination: teeth with a common pulp chamber

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Disturbances of dental development

- Interferences with eruption:
 - supernumerary teeth, sclerotic bone, heavy fibrous gingiva
 - 5-10% has at least one primary molar ankylosis
- Ectopic eruption: most likely occur in upper first molar
- Early loss of primary teeth: premature loss of primary canine or primary first molar → distal drift of incisors

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Disturbances of dental development

- Traumatic displacement of teeth:
 - Damage to permanent tooth buds from an injury to primary teeth
 - Drift of permanent teeth after premature loss of primary teeth
 - Direct injury to permanent teeth

Genetic influence

- Inherited in 2 major ways:
 - Disproportion between the size of the teeth and the size of the jaws (Teeth vs. Jaw)
 - Disproportion between size or shape of the upper and lower jaws (Upper vs. Lower)

Environmental influences

- If a habit like thumb sucking created pressure against the teeth for more than the threshold duration (6 hours or more per day), it certainly could move teeth.
- The transseptal fiber was stretched elastically during orthodontic treatment and tends to pull the teeth back toward their original position.

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- Flared and spaced maximary incisors
- Lingually positioned lower incisors
- Anterior open bite
- A narrow upper arch



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Etiology

- The etiologic agents are usually no longer present when growth is completed.
- Whatever the malocclusion, it is nearly always stable after growth has been completed.
- If an orthodontic problem is corrected in adult life, a surprising amount of change is also stable.