

## **TREATING MALOCCLUSIONS AND TEMPOROMANDIBULAR DISORDERS WITH JAW FUNCTIONAL ORTHOPEDICS**

### **Soft Tissue Dysfunction: Is it possible to re-educate muscular activity?**

Functional patterns acquired when the child is born are the etiological factors of malocclusions found on childhood and pre-adolescence. Understanding how these altered functional patterns are acquired and what may cause the dysfunctions in the system will permit the dentist to prevent and treat malocclusions much easier.

### **Functional Appliances: Do all the functional appliances produce an effect on the cranio-cervico-mandibular system in a similar way?**

There are a lot of functional appliances recommended to treat malocclusions. However, each of them has its own indications and contraindications. It is important to understand how they produce their effect on the cranio-cervico-mandibular system and what possibilities they offer to us, and so, to use the correct appliance to produce the expected results. Also, it is important to consider the quality of response in each patient when the dentist is intending to treat a malocclusion with functional appliances.

### **The Trainer System: An easy way to treat malocclusions early and to facilitate treating malocclusions with fixed orthodontics.**

The Trainer system is composed by various appliances, which are designed to correct those dysfunctions present in the cranio-cervico-mandibular system at different ages. Thus, they are excellent to treat malocclusions at an early age, and also, there are Trainers particularly designed to work in conjunction with fixed appliances. Scientific research demonstrates that these functional appliances are an excellent treatment choice.

### **Transversal development and Transversal Expansion: The Bend Wire System and the Trainer System.**

A lack of transversal development caused by Soft Tissue dysfunction is one of the most common problems when treating malocclusions. Re-educating muscular activity in the masticatory and peri-oral muscles reduces the crowding. However, other systems, such as de Bend Wire System, help to produce more transversal development accordingly to our treatment plan timing.

### **The TMJ System: Is it possible to treat Temporomandibular disorders with Functional Appliances.**

Currently, temporomandibular disorders are one of the most common motive of consultation in our practice. Pharmacological and dental treatments have been proposed to treat these problems. Functional appliances have become an excellent alternative to treat these articular problems.