

Overview and Treatment Protocol of the Most Common Craniofacial Anomalies

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Birth defects affect 2-3% of live births. A significant part of these involves the skull or face. Craniofacial anomalies (CFA) are a diverse group of deformities that primarily affect the growth of the cranium and facial bones. These abnormalities are congenital, and its involvement or effect could vary from mild to severe. Some are isolated or localized, but others could be part of a syndrome involving other regions of the body. The cause of these anomalies could be due to genetic, environmental factors or combination. Some of the most common CFA are: cleft lip and/or palate, craniosynostosis, mandibular malformations, ectodermal dysplasia, and cleidocranial dysplasia.

A standard treatment protocol must be followed to meet the essential needs of individuals with CFA. The treatment protocol of the most common craniofacial anomalies will be discussed focusing on the role of the orthodontist. The best interdisciplinary team care should not provide only the best outcomes but also the most efficient way of achieving the treatment goals.

Biography:

Najla Alrejaye is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. She earned her Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) degree from King Saud University. She completed her residency in Orthodontics at Boston University, where she received her Doctorate of Science in Dentistry (DScD) and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Orthodontics (CAGS). She completed an advanced fellowship program in Craniofacial and Special Care Orthodontics at University of California, San Francisco. She is currently an Assistant Consultant at Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs, Saudi Arabia. Her goals are to contribute to the profession through clinical care, education, and scientific research; and to improve care for individuals with craniofacial anomalies.