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THE IMPORTANCE OF TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT IN ORTHODONTICS

The orthodontic treatment process is a journey that starts with diagnosis and ends with retention. The determinant of the destination and permanence at the end of the road is primarily the diagnosis stage. Because we can only treat what we have diagnosed; and we aim to preserve what we have treated. The more comprehensive diagnosis we make, the more we eliminate the factors that may come from places we cannot see directly and cause relapse after treatment. By this way, we perform a more holistic treatment, which makes our journey successful, effective, and permanent. The reason why some parts are invisible in the stomatognathic system, which is our field of study, is the body's enormous adaptive capacity. However, the cost of adaptation comes as tissue damage, tissue loss and pain one day. Since the Temporomandibular joint plays a major role in ensuring the adaptation, it is of great importance to evaluate the Temporomandibular joint from positional and functional aspects in the orthodontic diagnosis process. In this presentation, orthopedic stability and instability, the relationship between occlusion and functional/dysfunctional chewing, and the effects of the temporomandibular joint on the whole body will be discussed.

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She was born in 1979 in Ankara. She graduated from Ege University Faculty of Dentistry in 2003. She finished her Ph.D in January 2010, at Cumhuriyet University, Faculty of Dentistry, Department of Orthodontics. Between 2011-2018, she had worked as an academician at Kocaeli University Faculty of Dentistry, Department of Orthodontics. She received the title of Associate Professor of Orthodontics in 2016. In recent years, she has focused her studies and clinical practice on temporomandibular joint disorders. She has been accepting patients and giving courses at Lotus Dental Academy since 2022. She also works as a faculty member at Kocaeli Health and Technology University, Faculty of Dentistry, Department of Orthodontics.