

the bite and create a comfortable mandibular rest position. Most athletes, however, are quite comfortable with no preparation of the posterior bite surfaces.

Some mouthguard material manufacturers offer anterior straps that can be heat attached during the fabrication process. Certain sports leagues, especially hockey and football, mandate that the mouthguard be attached to the helmet's face protection segment. Directions for attachment of such straps are usually included with the material.

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ABSTRACT OF THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE



TREATMENT OF BUCCAL CROSSBITE WITH DISTRACTION OSTEOGENESIS

Transverse mandibular deficiency has been a difficult orthodontic problem to treat. Orthognathic surgery, dental arch compensations, and extractions have been performed to correct this deficiency. An alternative procedure, distraction osteogenesis, has recently been presented as an effective treatment option. This case report described the treatment of a unilateral buccal crossbite in a 12-year-old girl with distraction osteogenesis using a custom-made hybrid distractor, splint, and elastics. A significant transverse increase of the mandible was noted following mandibular symphyseal distraction with the hybrid distractor.

Comments: A true unilateral buccal crossbite is relatively rare. Deficiency in mandibular width could be the underlying etiology of this transverse problem. The authors presented a unique and minimally invasive procedure with favorable treatment outcomes in this case report. Nevertheless, long-term stability and effectiveness of distraction osteogenesis in correcting transverse mandibular deficiency should be evaluated. **BL**

Address correspondence to Dr. John W. King, 5921 Harbour Lane, Suite 300, Midlothian, VA 23112.

King JW, Wallace JC. Unilateral Brodie bite treated with distraction osteogenesis. *Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop.* 2004;125:500-509.

22 references

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