

## **Orthodontic and orthopedic considerations about the treatment provided to Down syndrome children**

### **Abstract**

Down syndrome is a congenital, autosomal genetic disorder associated with craniofacial features and generalized muscular hypotonia, which lead to dental and skeletal changes. There must be orthodontic monitoring from the child's first year of life up to his/her adulthood to constantly monitor and correct functional abnormalities that may occur during the development and maturation of dental and skeletal structures. The aim of the current study is to address the craniofacial features of Down syndrome patients, their most common malocclusions, as well as the orthodontic and orthopedic treatment options that may be used to demystify the Orthodontist performance by providing physical and social well-being to these patients. We conducted a literature review on articles indexed to databases such as SciELO and PubMed, published between 2012 and 2015. The search was based on the following meshes in Portuguese: Síndrome de Down; Ortodontia interceptativa; Má oclusão, Angle Classe III; Qualidade de vida (in English: Down syndrome; Interceptive Orthodontics; Malocclusion, Angle Class III; Quality of life). We concluded that the orthodontic and orthopedic interceptive treatment is beneficial to these patients since it allows adjusting function, aesthetics and quality of life.

**Descriptors:** Down syndrome. Interceptive Orthodontics. Malocclusion, Angle Class III. Quality of life.

Carvalho TM, Miranda AF. Considerações ortodônticas e ortopédicas no tratamento de crianças com Síndrome de Down. R Odontol Planal Cent. 2015 Jul-Dez;5(2):5-10.