



Asymmetry inside the basi-cranium and the face

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Abstract :

Increasingly asymmetrical occlusions often wait until the mixed dentition to be detected. A single deviation of the lower arch is rarely spotted if we don't pay attention to the asymmetrical situation of the molars. In the case of a lateral cross-bite, the lateral deviation of the mandible is often due to a very narrow maxillary arch. Can we dismiss these small asymmetries in baby teeth? Is the side of the deviation a random one?

With an attentive exam protocol, occlusal asymmetry is combined with an asymmetrical masticatory dynamic in the 3 D. A close look at the photos of the young baby or the screening of a small cranial flat spot, should invite us to continue our investigation.

Our investigation (2005) of 43 skulls of children from a pre-Columbian of Peru affected by artificial deformations shows that those who had worn a mal-centered cranial appliance, have always combined cranial asymmetry with dentofacial asymmetry. Japanese colleagues have made casts of newborns: some of them already have a structural asymmetry of the palatine vault.

The delivery process is often considered to be the primary factor in the development of so-called "functional" plagiocephaly (without premature synostosis of the cranial sutures). Clearly, some dystocic deliveries increase the risk. But other factors must be explored in the pre- and post-natal period.

Our goal is to ensure cranial and facial symmetrization before the age of 6. These very early orthopedic treatments do not wait for delayed treatments.