



## Mesialization of the canine: why favour this option? Application in malformative or idiopathic agenesis

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### Abstract :

The absence of the maxillary lateral incisor of malformative or idiopathic origin most often leads to a therapeutic compromise that is both functional and esthetic. Maintaining the space or distalizing the canine to create it poses the problem of prosthetic compensation for the missing incisor in the young patient, first temporarily and then permanently deferred.

The choice of mesialization of the canine deserves to be revisited in its indications and in its implementation. Jean DELAIRE and then Jacques TALMANT argued very early on the role of the development of the teeth of the maxillary anterior sector, on the one hand in the transverse

growth of the premaxilla and on the other hand in the support of the musculocutaneous facial envelope, in particular in the functional optimization of the cartilaginous nose.

Closure of the space by mesialization of the canines can meet these objectives provided that it is not accompanied by a reduction in the transverse dimensions of the premaxilla.

In addition, coronal plasty of the canine, although sometimes unsatisfactory from an aesthetic point of view for the practitioner in the simulation of a lateral incisor, is generally very well accepted by the patients.

Two problems remain, on the one hand the capacity of the first premolar to ensure the occlusal function of the canine and on the other hand the increased duration of the orthodontic treatment to mesialize the whole lateral dental sector concerned.

Numerous clinical observations lead us to take a positive approach to the mesialization of the canine in terms of therapeutic gradient.