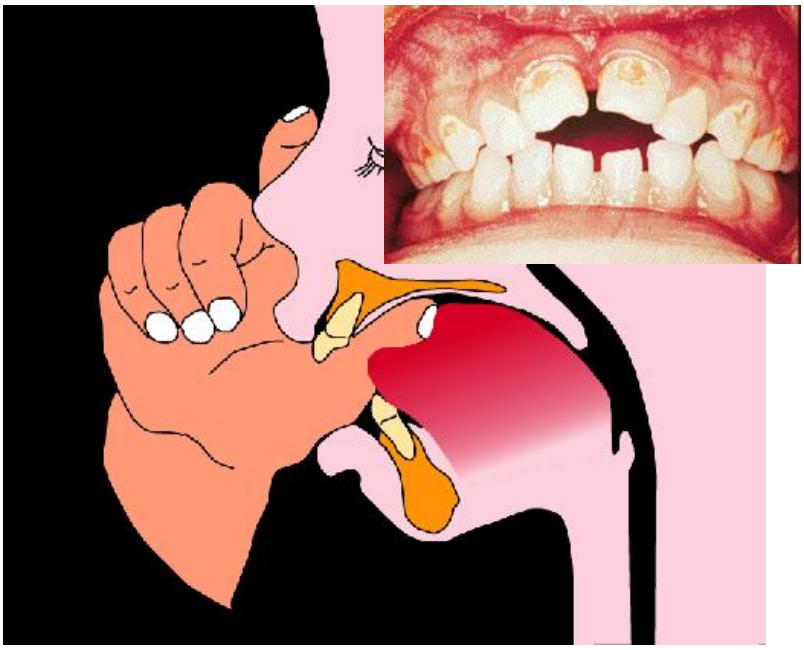
Crooked, Misaligned and Crowded Teeth

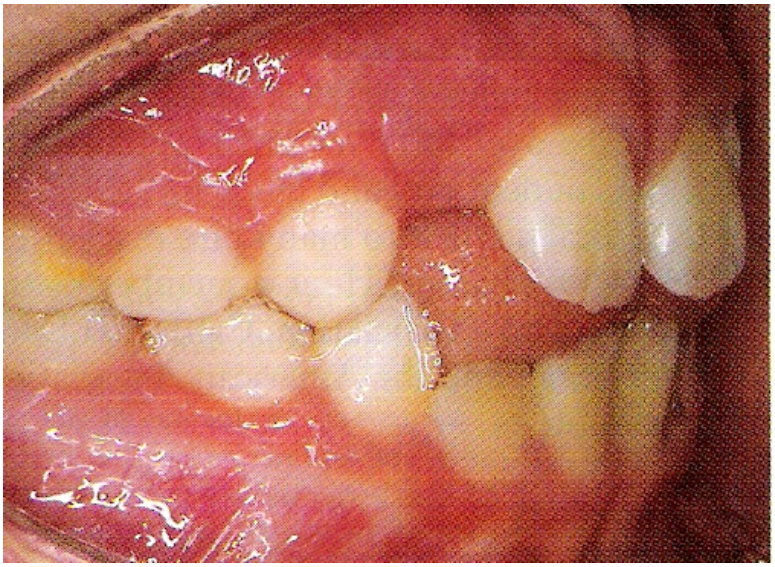
Habits such as **incorrect swallowing, tongue thrusting, thumb sucking, mouthbreathing** can cause poor development of the jaws and therefore poorfacial appearance and crooked teeth.

Thumb sucking



Tongue thrusting





If a child's teeth and jaws are not developingcorrectly, facial development is also most often incorrect.

The influence ofhealth problems like **allergies, asthma, poor posture and nutrition** allhave aneffect on **facialand dental development**. The way a child swallows determines if theteeth will be correctly aligned or crowded.

These problems should be evaluated and treated while the child is stillgrowing, well before the usual age when children have braces. **Orthodontic treatmentwith extraction of permanent teeth can be avoided by early action.**

Early treatment to correct these habits and developthe jaw can result in a better looking face and help avoid braces andextractions.

The secret to the above is early diagnosis at theage of 4 or above.

Treatment between ages of 4 and 10 generallyinvolves around **orthopaedics** whichis where we generally expand the jaws so that we minimize the need fororthodontics or even if we need orthodontics then it for a short period of time



After generally the age of 12 we have to placebraces on. However that does not mean the orthopaedics cannot be carried out.Each child is an individual and needs to be evaluated before any treatment iscommenced



Why is orthopaedic and orthodontic treatmentimportant?

Crooked and crowded teeth arehard to clean and maintain. This may contribute to conditions that cause notonly tooth decay but also eventual gum disease and tooth loss. Otherorthodontic problems can contribute to abnormal wear of tooth surfaces,inefficient chewing function, excessive stress on gum tissue and the bone thatsupports the teeth, or misalignment of the jaw joints, which can result inchronic headaches or pain in the face or neck.

When left untreated, many orthodontic problemsbecome worse. Treatment to correct the original problem is often less costlythan the additional dental care required to treat more serious problems thatcan develop in later years.

Orthodontic treatment can improve your dental health and change your facialappearance for the better, and it can boost your self-esteem. It can provideyou with the chance to participate in improving the way you look. Patientsoften feel more self-confident even before treatment is completed. The value ofan attractive smile should not be underestimated.

Crowded teeth in children may not cause an immediate problemin a child's health and development but can be a cause for long time worry asthe child grows. The reasons for crowdedteeth are many but the most important underlying cause is the poor developmentof the jaw. The jaws; the upper jaw, lower jaw or both do not grow because of anumber of reasons. Bad habits such as mouth breathing, thumb sucking, tonguethrusting, sucking on a pacifier for prolonged periods can all be causes forunder development of the jaw.

The baby or primaryteeth that start appearing by one year of age or younger and are all there byage 3

should have gaps between them. These spaces show that there is enoughspace for permanent teeth to come out straight and even when the primary teethfall out by age 6. This is called as crowding of teeth. If there is no spacebetween baby teeth, there could be many problems that can be faced. Since thereis no space between the teeth, food will get caught between the teeth and ifproper brushing is not done there will be tooth decay eventually causing thetooth to fall off. Premature falling of baby teeth is not good as the permanentteeth will make their appearance only at a specified age and the jaw will notdevelop correctly if baby teeth are absent.

Crowded teeth will cause the permanent teeth to bemisaligned and crooked when they make their appearance. Misaligned teeth maynot be able to masticate food properly and may cause digestive problems andstunted growth. Misaligned or crooked teeth may also cause lisping andinability to speak clearly. These can have psychological repercussions on thechild's personality and mental well being. Crooked or misaligned teeth do notmake a pretty picture and the general facial appearance of the person iscompromised by them.

For all the above reasons, it is important to take crowdedteeth treatment from expert paediatric dentists such as Sydney ChildrensDentistry.

There are many crowded teeth treatments that can be givenand the course of treatment can be decided after ascertaining the cause ofcrowded teeth and the extent of crowding.

In early childhood between the ages of 4 and 10, crowdedteeth treatment is orthopedic in nature where ways are found to expand the jawgiving the teeth more space resulting in evening of the teeth.

Orthodontic treatment is one of the best crowded teethtreatments in older children and can improve dental health of your child andalso change the facial appearance of the child for the better. This can in turnboost self-esteem and self confidence of the child. Orthodontics involves theuse of braces to straighten out crooked teeth after space is created by extracting a tooth or more.

Whichamong the many options in crowded teeth treatments is suitable can bedetermined only after careful examination of the child.

If you would like more information **on crooked teeth in sydney,mislaligned teeth in sydney or crowded teeth in sydney, orthodontics in sydney,orthopaedics in Sydney, clear braces in Sydney, Invisalign in Sydney, no bracesin Sydney, myobrace in sydney** please contact Smile Concepts directly by clicking here or ringing **02 9267 7777**