

Orthodontic Management of Patients with Moebius Syndrome: A Case Report

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Abstract : Background: This clinical case report follows the orthodontic journey of a teenage girl being treated in the Oxfordshire Community Dental Service. She presents with a rare genetic disorder - Moebius syndrome - characterised by unilateral or bilateral facial (CN VII) and abducens (CN VI) nerve palsy. This report seeks to educate Dental professionals on the impact of Moebius syndrome on Dental treatment, and how to make reasonable adjustments to make orthodontic care accessible to these patients. Methodology: Moebius syndrome is a very rare genetic disorder. Across the Oxfordshire Community Dental Service, only two patients with this condition have been identified who are undergoing orthodontic treatment. One of these patients was selected and observed, while the orthodontist (Heather Nevard) was providing orthodontic treatment with fixed appliances. The patient is undergoing treatment to correct her class II division 2 incisor relationship complicated by buccally excluded, transposed maxillary canines. Conclusions: Specific oral presentations of Moebius syndrome include microstomia, micrognathia, tongue malformation, high or cleft palate, bifid uvula and Dental malocclusion. Orthodontics plays a major role in managing and correcting many of these conditions. This emphasises the importance for Dental professionals to be informed on the condition and highlights the need for Dental input in multidisciplinary teams responsible for the care of these patients. Receiving corrective treatment has a significant impact on an individual's quality of life. In this case, the patient felt much more confident in herself, and having aligned teeth will allow her to better maintain a healthy dentition throughout life. By understanding and educating oneself on Moebius syndrome, one is able to better cater to patient needs and make orthodontic treatment accessible.

Keywords : dentistry, facial palsy, moebius syndrome, orthodontics

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