William M Hang, DDS, MSD

Face Focused

orthodontics & dentofacial orthopedics®
for children & adults

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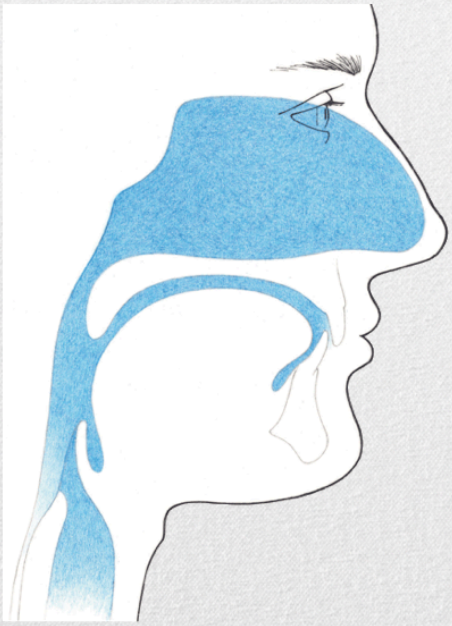
Airway Focused® Orthodontics



- Minimally defined as something which does not decrease the airway
- Ideally means that treatment would increase the airway

For more information visit our website: www.facefocused.com

Long Distance Consultations are available

Airway Focused® Orthodontics....

For children under age 10: Orthotropics®

Orthotropics® seeks to create an environment for the tongue that is compatible with proper rest oral posture (teeth together or slightly apart, tongue to the palate with the tip behind the upper front teeth, lips together without strain) and to develop both jaws forward.

Research published in The Journal of Craniomandibular Practice showed orthotropics® patients on average had a 31% increase in the airway above and behind the soft palate, a 23% increase in the airway behind the base of the tongue, and a 9% increase near the level of the hyoid bone.

For teens and adults: Non-Retractive Orthodontics

Non-retractive orthodontics does nothing to bring the teeth back in the face which would make less room for the tongue and possibly cause the airway to be narrower.

Non-retractive orthodontics never involves extracting permanent teeth, the use of head/neck gears, or closing spacing in a way that brings the front teeth back.

Non-retractive orthodontics broadens arches, often moves front teeth forward, closes spacing in the front by consolidating the space in the back where it doesn't show.

For those who have had Retractive Orthodontics: Re-open previous extraction spaces & replace the teeth with implants or bridges

For patients who have had orthodontics that included the extraction of teeth, it is often possible to reverse the process by re-opening the spaces where the teeth were taken out and replacing those teeth with implants or bridges. This often results in a larger airway (even perhaps eliminating obstructive sleep apnea), decreased pain patterns (headaches & TMJ pain), and a more esthetic smile and profile.

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