Preface

Orthodontics for the Craniofacial Surgery Patient

This issue of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics of North America serves as the second of a 2-part series that emphasizes the critical role of the orthodontist in the management of the craniofacial surgery patient (issue 2). The first issue, “Orthodontics for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Patient” (issue 1), reviewed, in detail, common collaborative procedures performed by the orthodontist and oral and maxillofacial surgeon as viewed from the joint and integrated perspectives of both specialties. This issue, “Orthodontics for the Craniofacial Surgery Patient,” highlights the critical role that the orthodontist plays in the surgical procedures performed for the craniofacial patient.

The impetus for this work was initiated with the goal of developing a comprehensive reference text describing the most commonly performed procedures involving craniofacial surgeons and craniofacial orthodontists by experienced authors in both specialties. The editors feel that this was an often-overlooked area in the existing literature. To address this goal, as in the first issue in this series, we again feel that we have been so fortunate to recruit some of the most notable craniofacial surgeons and craniofacial orthodontists in the world to write on topics and share their experiences for which they are considered authoritative experts. We are very proud of this text and so grateful to those who have contributed to making this a unique collaboration of practitioners.

As in the first issue of this series, we charged authors (oral and maxillofacial surgeons and orthodontists) with the task of collaboration based upon their expertise, regardless of their institution or prior interactions or biases. A significant challenge in achieving this goal, and major difficulty for these authors, is that they may not have ever met each other. Yet they were still able to work together and produce quality articles for this text. All the authors, regardless of institutional and preconceived biases, agreed to join us on this monumental endeavor. Each of the authors produced a thoughtful and authoritative article for the topic for which they were assigned, and we, the editors, are so thankful for this.

Finally, these patients described in this issue are so special to us, and we are fortunate enough to be able to treat them and make meaningful changes in their lives. They are unique, complex, challenging, and perplexing, often requiring us to “think outside the box.” Perhaps most importantly, treating these patients is truly rewarding and an honor for us all. We hope this text will help to...
contribute positively to their care by reinforcing the critical relationships between specialists in achieving successful outcomes.

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