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Skeletal Asymmetries

Skeletal Asymmetries can result from congenital birth defects, faulty genetic growth & development, abnormalities in the formation of the mandibular condyles (parts of the lower jaw that hinge against the base of the skull and allow us to open and close). These conditions typically require a combination orthodontic treatment in preparation for jaw surgery. (See Surgical Orthodontic Treatment.)

Common characteristics associated with skeletal asymmetries include:

- Lower jaw deviates to one side
- Upper jaw is “canted” with one side being lower than the other
- A “canted” smile/smile line
- Teeth don’t touch/meet properly when chewing
- Anterior/Posterior open bite relationships

