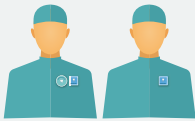


What is an orthodontist?

Orthodontists are dental specialists who are trained in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of dental and facial irregularities. They provide a wide range of treatment options such as braces, Invisalign® and plates to straighten crooked teeth, fix bad bites and align the jaws correctly.

Did you know?

On top of their general dental degree, orthodontists also complete an additional three years of specialist training and then dedicate their career to working only in the field of orthodontics.



What is the difference between a dentist and an orthodontist?

Orthodontists and dentists share many similarities - they work together to help you improve your overall oral health - but they actually work in very different ways.

In order for patients to make informed decisions regarding treatment, it's important to be aware of a few key differences between both.

Orthodontist		Dentist	
			
General dental degree + 3-year specialist orthodontist degree	Facial growth & dental development expert	General dental degree	Dental health expert
			
Treats crooked teeth & bad bites	Provider of all orthodontic treatment	Treats diseases of teeth, gums & mouth	Provider of general dental care for all ages

So, who should I see for advice about my smile?

Patients should continue to see their dentist for regular check-ups and cleaning throughout their orthodontic treatment. However, when it comes to the provision of orthodontic care such as braces, Invisalign® or plates, it is recommended that patients see a specialist orthodontist and not a general dentist. No referral is needed to see an orthodontist.