

## Diagnostics of problems of the jaw joint function

Innovative orthodontics clinic

## What are the symptoms of jaw joint problems?

People can experience jaw joint problems at different ages. Pain can manifest in various places, from headache to limb pain.

Furthermore, ordinary tingling in arms, dizziness, noises in ears can point to jaw joint problems. Most often, jaw joint dysfunction is linked to the overload of cranial, cervical and back muscles, which, over time, lead to incorrect body posture and spinal deformity. However, also overbite or underbite, trauma in jaw joints, immune system conditions, such as juvenile arthritis, can cause jaw joint dysfunction. People often find it difficult or even painful to chew food, they struggle to open or close mouth, the jaw might click — with a noise or the sensation of rubbing, when opening the mouth, visual facial asymmetry can be observed. If such symptoms occur, it is necessary to see an orthodontist, who can diagnose jaw joint dysfunctions.

## How is the diagnosis reached?

Joint jaw problems can be relieved at any age. However, it requires special knowledge and precision. To prepare a treatment plan, the orthodontist performs diagnostics, examines the patient's general dental health condition and bodily symmetry. In diagnosing problems of jaw joint functions, a special device – an axiograph – is used, which diagnoses and analyses impairments of the jaw joint function. The latest generation optical axiograph ModJaw is used at the dental clinic Concordia. The superb precision and convenient use of this device both for the patient and the doctor allow making quick and easy measurements, transfer them to the technical dentistry laboratory for the making of therapeutic equipment.

## How are jaw joints treated?

The treatment process usually takes place in two stages. The first stage starts with the adjustment of the mandible, where, during treatment, initially non-invasive treatment is received with a removable joint positioning and relieving equipment, in order to optimally balance the mandible relative to the maxilla and the joint. During the diagnostic process, the most suitable jaw joint position is determined. The aim of the treatment is to place a disk on the head of the joint so that the overloaded tissue of the jaw joint would no longer be damaged, thereby reducing pain not only in the jaw joint itself, but also in remote pain locations - in the head, back and limbs. In the second phase, in rare cases, surgical intervention is needed, but mostly the following treatment measures are used:

- Orthopaedic jaw treatment and creating dental arch contacts between teeth in the new position with the help of braces or corrective caps;
- Jaw shifting with mandibulomaxillary surgery in co-operation with a facial and mandibulomaxillary surgery specialist;
- Prosthetics work with crowns, veneers, implants and/or removable prostheses by a dentist.





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