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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Ankyloglossia as a risk factor for maxillary hypoplasia and soft palate elongation: A functional – morphological study

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Structured Abstract

Objectives

To characterize associations between restricted tongue mobility and maxillofacial development.

Setting and Sample Population

Cross-sectional cohort study of 302 consecutive subjects from an orthodontic practice.

Material and Methods

Tongue mobility (measured with tongue range of motion ratio [TRMR] and Kotlow free tongue measurement) was correlated with measurements of the maxillofacial skeleton obtained from dental casts and cephalometric radiographs.

Results

Tongue range of motion ratio and Kotlow measures of restricted tongue mobility were associated with (i) ratio of maxillary intercanine width to canine arch length, (ii) ratio of maxillary intermolar width to canine arch length. Restricted tongue mobility was not associated with maxillary arch classification.

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Conclusions

Restricted tongue mobility was associated with elongation of the soft palate in this study. Restricted tongue mobility may affect maxillofacial development.

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Roberta Lopes de Castro Martinelli, Irene Queiroz Marchesan, Reinaldo Jordão Gusmão and Giédre Berretin-Felix, Letter to the Editor, *International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry*, , (2019).
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