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### The psycho-social and quality of life impacts of malocclusion and orthodontic treatment in adolescents

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**Introduction:** Malocclusion may have an impact on psycho-social aspects, but the evidence is less clear cut regarding the potential benefits associated with orthodontic treatment. This PhD therefore aimed to study these aspects in 3 chapters:

#### Prospective controlled longitudinal study

**Aim:** To study social impacts following functional appliance in adolescent with Class II Division 1 malocclusions and to compare it with a control group of patients of the same age range who had not yet commenced treatment.

**Methods:** Participants completed a questionnaire regarding social impacts before and after functional appliance treatment.

**Results:** 114 patients were recruited, 65 patients in the treatment group and 49 patients in the control group. There was no statistically significant difference between the groups at T2.

**Conclusions:** Based on the questionnaires used, there were no significant social benefits associated with functional appliance treatment.

#### Qualitative study

**Aim:** To explore the social impacts of malocclusion in adolescent patients using qualitative methods.

**Methods:** In-depth interviews were conducted, and data were analysed using a framework analysis.

**Results:** 12 participants were interviewed, and three main themes were identified: Interpersonal relations, feelings regarding facial images and teasing.

**Conclusions:** Although common themes were identified, variation existed with regards to the social effects of malocclusion on an adolescent's lifestyle. Interviewees reported being repeatedly reminded of their malocclusion; reinforced through teasing and images in different media.

#### Biography

Huda Abutayyem completed her Ph. D in Clinical Orthodontics from Eastman Dental Institute, UCL London, U.K. She is an experienced academician and specialist professional in the field of Orthodontics. She working as an assistant professor in Ras Al Kamiah Dental College (RAKCODS), UAE from 2017. Also works as a specialist orthodontist in clinics from 2010. Previously she served as a lecturer at Ajman University.

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