

**ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF PATIENTS WITH
MALOCCLUSION ATTENDING ORTHODONTIC
CLINIC AT TWO LEVEL V HOSPITALS IN
NAIROBI**

BY

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ABSTRACT

Many people are affected by malocclusion. Malocclusion can vary from just a tooth which is misaligned to crowding of teeth. Malocclusion has various effects, depending on the severity of the condition, for example it can contribute to periodontal disease and caries. However, with good oral hygiene the effects can be minimized. The objective of the study was to assess the oral health status of patients with malocclusion attending the orthodontic clinic at two Level V Hospitals, Nairobi County using a cross-sectional descriptive design. The study was conducted in the orthodontic clinics at Mbagathi District Hospital and Mama Lucy Kibaki Hospital. Study population comprised patients with malocclusion attending the orthodontic clinic at District Hospital and Mama Lucy Kibaki Hospital. Systematic random sampling method was used in selection of study subjects from the study population. A clinical examination was carried out and the findings recorded in a clinical examination form. Out of the 99 participants 30 (30%) were 6-9 years old, 27(27.5%) were 14-19year olds, 20 (20%) were 10-13 year old, 12 (12.5%) were 18-19yearsold and 9(10%) were 2-5 years old. Of these 57 (57.5%) were females and 42 (42.5%) were males. 27 (27.5%) brushed once daily and a similar number brushed twice daily. 22(22.5%) of the participants did not brush daily. 40 (40%) of the participants had caries, 49 (50%) had periodontitis and 69 (70%) had gingivitis. These oral health status showed association with oral hygiene status specifically frequency of brushing teeth. In conclusion, most paediatric malocclusion patients have poor oral health status. Paediatric patients with malocclusion should be monitored regularly for poor oral health status by dentists and other dental health workers and encouraged to practice oral hygiene.