

Dentistry & Oral Care

April 18-20, 2016 Dubai, UAE

The ethical dilemmas in orthodontics

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Despite the fact that there are ethical problems, orthodontic interventions are continuously encountered by orthodontists who rarely deal with life or death decisions. There are important human values at stake in the course of treatment including preventing pain, maintaining and restoring oral function for normal speech and eating, preserving and restoring the patient's physical appearance and promoting a sense of control over and responsibility for his or her own health. Last but not the least, orthodontists particularly, to a great extent deal with children where ethical problems arise especially when there is moral uncertainty. This paper is going to present a clinical case as an example to show ethical dilemmas that orthodontists may face when advocating for the best interests of a child.

Biography

Maen Mahfouz received his DDS degree in 1998 from Al-Ba'ath University in Humus, Syria. He has received his MDS and Specialty in Orthodontics - Pediatric Dentistry in 2003 from Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt, certified by Palestinian Medical Council (Palestinian Board in Orthodontics) (2005), certified by Saudi commission for health specialties (Professional Accreditation Certificate in Orthodontics) (2014) and is currently an orthodontist at Ministry of Health - Saudi Arabia. He was an orthodontist at dental department- Alzafer hospital -Najran -Saudi Arabia and was a former lecturer at the Dental faculty - Arab American University- Jenin, Palestine. He is a member in Palestinian Orthodontic Society (POS), a member in Arab Orthodontic Society (AOS) and a fellow of World Federation of orthodontists (WFO). He is interested in researches in Orthodontics, Orthognathic Surgery, Skeletal Anchorage and Smile Design. He has shared many international conferences in different countries. He is an author and reviewer of several published papers in international reputed journals.

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