

Sagittal Appliance

The sagittal appliance is most often used to open space so that the upper cuspids (eyeteeth) may erupt into the mouth. The sagittal appliance also releases the lower teeth from the restrictive influence of the upper teeth so that the lowers can begin to uncrowd spontaneously. It is also a very useful initial appliance for patients who have some temporomandibular joint (TMJ) problems. It acts as a splint to separate the upper and lower teeth and allows the lower jaw to position itself.

The sagittal appliance is an “eating appliance” and must be worn all the time, except when brushing. Eating and speaking may be slightly difficult during the first few days; however, most patients have very few problems with this appliance. It should be rinsed or brushed after each meal with a toothbrush and toothpaste. Soreness of teeth does occur; however, this is one of the more gentle appliances and is very gentle to the tissues. If you should have any trouble with the appliance, please notify our office and come in to have it adjusted. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ron Snyder and Staff

