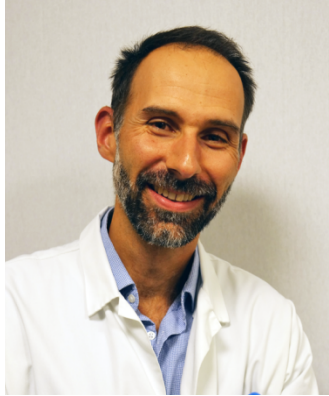


Vertical posterior balance. Description and consideration in the diagnosis and treatment of dentofacial deformities

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The posterior vertical dimension of the face is rarely considered in the diagnosis and treatment of dentofacial deformities. However, it contributes both to the quality of morphological results, and to the stability of dental occlusion after orthodontic treatment, especially when functional disorders occur. Craniofacial and structural architectural analysis is a considerable aid to diagnosis and to therapeutic decision making. This paper will present the clinical and cephalometric "tools" available for practitioners to evaluate posterior facial balance, characterize hyperdivergent facial patterns or condylar hyperplasia, and propose the most appropriate treatment in case of imbalance. The most frequent and/or severe conditions with posterior vertical dimension issues will be presented.