

Long term results of functional treatment of mandibular condylar fractures in children.

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Condylar region is most often affected during facial trauma of the child. The aim of their treatment is to restore normal joint function and preserve the mandibular growth potential. Temporomandibular ankylosis, facial asymmetry and chronic pain are the main sequelae described of condylar fracture. The therapeutic modalities are highly variable and non-consensual. Few studies have assessed the long-term results of these treatments. We conducted a study of the outcomes of the functional treatment (described by Delaire) in the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery of Nantes, on children victims of a condylar fracture from the immediate posttraumatic period to the end their facial growth. 108 children were included and 33 were followed until the end of the growth. The results obtained by this functional treatment were satisfactory, and in agreement with the literature. The effectiveness of functional treatment is undeniable but in order to prevent after-effects, it still requires close monitoring and a high patient's and family's compliance.