

## عنوان مقاله:

Qualitative Description of the Effects of Rapid Maxillary Expansion: A Three-Dimensional Perspective

## محل انتشار:

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## خلاصه مقاله:

**Background** The effects of rapid maxillary expansion (RME) have been widely studied with classic bidimensional imaging. **Objectives** The study aimed to determine immediate post-expansion effect of RME with three-dimensional imaging. **Methods** Computed tomography (CT) low dose scan records were taken for three patients before applying RME (T<sub>0</sub>), and immediately after the end of the active expansion phase (T<sub>1</sub>). For one patient a CT scan was available also at T<sub>2</sub>, at time of RME removal. Image analysis was done in 4 steps: segmentation of the face skull, model construction and exportation of .stl surface shells, cranial base superimpositions and colorimetric maps overlay. **Results** There were differences in the bone adaptations to RME, but it was possible to identify some common trends in the three patients. All of the three patients showed a pattern of forward movement of the maxilla associated to the suture opening. Patients 1 and 3 demonstrated also a downward movement of the maxilla, which was not visible on patient 2. As a sagittal advancement of almost 6 mm, as visible in patients 1 and 3, was not possible due to growth in only two weeks, all bony changes could be attributed to the RME. For patient 1, the bony changes present at T<sub>1</sub>, were still present at T<sub>2</sub>, while the suture was closed. **Conclusions** A pattern of forward immediate displacement of the maxilla with respect to the cranial base was consistently noticed in three patients. The vomer bone maintained a connection with one half of the maxilla when the suture opened.

## کلمات کلیدی:

Rapid Maxillary Expansion, Three, Dimensional Imaging, Computed tomography

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