

THE NANCE APPLIANCE WITH SPRINGS

Please read the following information thoroughly to better understand the function and care of your appliance.

What it is and how it works

The Nance appliance is a “fixed appliance”, which means that it is cemented in place and is not removable by the patient, but will be removed by Dr. Finkelson upon completion of its role in your treatment.

The Nance is used to achieve movement of the first molars in the upper jaw, just as headgear would. Since the Nance is fixed in place, it is working 24 hours a day, as opposed to headgear, where success depends totally on patient compliance and co-operation. Many patients also find the Nance more comfortable than wearing headgear. It works faster than the headgear and can avoid the removal of adult teeth to help correct the bite and crowding problems.

Once the upper first molars have reached desired positioning in a Class I (Ideal) relationship, the doctor, will remove the appliance. The process will take several months, and varies depending upon the patient, each case is different.

What to expect

Initially, the patient may experience mild discomfort and slight slurring of speech. Both of these symptoms will disappear within a few days, as the patient becomes accustomed to the Nance. Ibuprofen is recommended if any discomfort should occur.

The Nance appliance works in conjunction with a special wire and coil springs to achieve the desired distalization. If a wire or coil should happen to come loose or fall out, which means that the appliance is working quicker than expected, a call to our office should be made to schedule an appointment to have it replaced within the next 2-3 weeks.

The wire will be left deliberately long when first placed to allow for tooth movement. If discomfort should occur, the patient may use wax to cover the area. If wax is not available, a piece of sugarless gum, slightly chewed (by the patient of course) also works nicely.

Appliance Care

As always, brushing after each meal is recommended, followed by a thorough rinsing with one cup of water to dislodge any food particles that may be present. **ACT Fluoride Rinse** is recommended daily before bed, and is beneficial to all patients; not just those with fixed appliances. If the gums become a little puffy, “Glyoxide” rinse (purchased at your local drug store) should be used.

Remember that this appliance will not remain in the mouth for the entire course of treatment; it is only a temporary inconvenience to allow for efficient tooth movement to which the patient must adjust very quickly.