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PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY & ORTHODONTICS

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Anterior Crossbite Appliance with Finger Springs

The purpose of the lingual arch appliance with finger springs is to correct an anterior front tooth or teeth crossbite. This appliance helps to align the anterior teeth and create dental arch symmetry. Correction of the crossbite will help relieve traumatic occlusion and prevent potential gingival issues, such as gum recession or bone loss.

The device is not removable, and you will not need to do anything to it. Since it fits behind the teeth, it is not very visible. It may take between three and five days for the patient to get accustomed to the lingual arch device. Your child may notice a temporary change in speech until their tongue adjusts to the new appliance. Although the device works slowly and gently, some discomfort is to be expected. Motrin, Tylenol, aspirin, or similar analgesics will be all that is necessary. It is a very good idea to take the proper dose before discomfort starts. Most patients will have the habit of pressing their tongue against the lingual arch wire. This will create a groove in the tongue. Although this is not harmful, it may for a short time make the tongue uncomfortable.

Patients must not play with the wire. Hard, sticky candy, brittle foods, gums, or ice will loosen or destroy the lingual arch. Teeth should be brushed and flossed in the usual manner. It is normal for teeth undergoing orthodontic movement to feel loose or mobile. If your appliance bands become loose on the molars, please call our office immediately.

