

# HealthGuard 2025: Global Forum on Public Health & Preventive Medicine

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## Preventive and Interceptive Orthodontics

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The prevalence of malocclusions represents about 98% of the general population; anyone can have some degree of malocclusion, which is considered a public health problem. On the other hand, the prevalence of malocclusions during mixed dentition and the need for orthodontic treatment is about 47% of the population. Preventive and interceptive orthodontics aim to detect and treat developing orthodontic problems early, ensuring optimal oral health and proper tooth and jaw alignment that supports both aesthetics and function. Preventive orthodontics involves measures taken to maintain the normal development of the oral cavity, supporting a natural and healthy transition to permanent dentition. The actions include regular dental checkups, oral hygiene education, dietary counselling, and fluoride applications to prevent tooth decay and maintain oral health. Interceptive orthodontics is related to local factors, including supernumerary teeth, ectopic canines, anterior crossbites, posterior crossbites, oral habits, and orthopaedic treatment of Class II Division 1, Division 2 and Class III malocclusions, among others.