TOF International Orthodontics Foundation

Year: 2024 Type of Awards (Young/Elite/Clinical) Name of Principal Investigator: Associate Professor Dr Wan Nurazreena Wan Hassan Affiliated Institution: Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

About of the PI

- Introduction & Education: Dr Wan Nurazreena received training in Dentistry and Orthodontics at the University of Wales College of Medicine and Cardiff University, Wales, United Kingdom. She was conferred with Diploma of Membership in Orthodontics from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and is currently a Fellow of the same college. Her research focus is on digital dentistry and quality of life. She recently obtained Doctor of Philosophy from Universiti Malaya (UM).
- Career Trajectory: She is currently the Deputy Dean (Undergraduate) at the Faculty of Dentistry, UM and was previously the Head of Department of Paediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics. She is the Principal Investigator of two national grants that study the impact of malocclusion on the quality of life.



- Research Contributions, Impact & Recognition: Her research has highlighted that the psychosocial impact experience by the malocclusion is highly prevalent among youth. She developed an orthodontic specific socio-dental model of treatment need to identity young people who should be prioritised for treatment.
- Personal Insights: Orthodontic treatment is not just about improving aesthetics but builds self-confidence.
- Future Directions: Understanding how the malocclusion impacts the psychosocial wellbeing could provide opportunities for a more comprehensive treatment. She hopes to develop new models of treatment through an understanding of human behaviour towards malocclusion.

Brief Summary of the Project:

The success of managing the dentofacial defects of cleft patients by the multidisciplinary cleft team requires an understanding of what matters most to patients and the people around them. Majority of primary cleft lip repair need to undergo lip revision due to secondary cleft lip deformity (SCLD), which is potentially motivated by parents to avoid any psychological issues that may arise from peer pressure. We hypothesis that peer attitudes towards SCLD is also influenced by their own awareness over oral aesthetics. The purpose of this study is to assess the gaze behavior among school going children towards SCLD. This cross-sectional study will assess the gaze behaviour of school children towards still images of subjects with SCLD. The study will determine for an association between gaze fixation time with level of perception of their oral aesthetics and their negative or positive perception towards SCLD. The clinical significance of this study is to provide data for the cleft team to plan and justify the appropriate timing for lip revision due to SCLD.



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