

Short Bio

Dr. Yilmaz graduated with the highest distinction from Marmara University, Faculty of Dentistry in 2005. In the same year, she commenced her doctoral studies in orthodontics at the same institution. She received her PhD degree in 2012 with a dissertation entitled “Cephalometric Evaluation of Skeletal Anchorage and Class III Elastics in Cases with Maxillary Retrognathia”.

Since 2011, she has been serving as the coordinator of the Cleft Lip and Palate Infant Clinic within the Department of Orthodontics. In 2021, she was awarded the title of Associate Professor and continues to conduct her academic and clinical activities in the same department.

She specializes in Class III malocclusions, skeletal anchorage systems, cleft lip and palate anomalies, orthognathic surgery, and three-dimensional imaging technologies. Dr. Yilmaz has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications, contributed to several book chapters, and presented her research at national and international scientific meetings. She has supervised many postgraduate theses and has played an active role in various funded research projects in the field of orthodontics.

Decision-Making in the Treatment of Class III Malocclusions: Treatment Modalities and Outcome Assessment

Class III malocclusions are one of the most complex malocclusions in orthodontics, characterized by challenging diagnosis and treatment processes, with a multifactorial etiology involving both genetic and environmental factors. In determining the suitable treatment approach in these cases, many variables such as analysis of skeletal and dental structures, patient age, growth potential and pattern, severity of malocclusion, patient expectations and patient cooperation should be evaluated. Correct evaluation of these factors, determination of realistic goals and the positive or negative effects of the ongoing growth in the treatment of children and adolescents directly affect the success of treatment. Since clinical severity and skeletal/dental features may exhibit heterogeneity even among individuals of similar age groups, individual evaluation is essential in treatment planning. So, if it is predicted that early achievements will not contribute significantly to the prognosis, would it be a more rational approach to start active treatment or to monitor the process carefully?

In this presentation, clinical factors affecting the method selection in the decision-making process in individuals with Class III malocclusion will be discussed, and different treatment methods such as traditional facemask, Alt-RAMEC and facemask, corticotomy-assisted protraction methods and skeletal anchorage-assisted methods will be discussed with case examples from various age groups. The difficulties that may be encountered during the treatment process and solution suggestions will be discussed. In addition, the short and long-term skeletal, dental and soft tissue results will be evaluated by presenting examples from personal clinical experiences along with the literature. Thus, the importance of choosing the right method and individualized treatment planning in Class III cases will be emphasized.