

# Orthognathic surgery

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Impaired growth of the midface (maxilla) is a consequence of a number of factors, which are poorly understood. Genetic factors as well as local factors following primary surgery may be involved. Elective maxillary advancement or bimaxillary surgery may be indicated to restore aesthetics and dental occlusal harmony . Orthognathic surgery is usually performed when facial growth is complete (16–17 years in female patients, 17–19 years in male patients). The principal dentofacial deformity associated with cleft lip and palate is underdevelopment in both the horizontal and vertical direction of the maxilla. This jaw size discrepancy can be corrected with orthognathic surgery ( Figure 50.11 ).

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