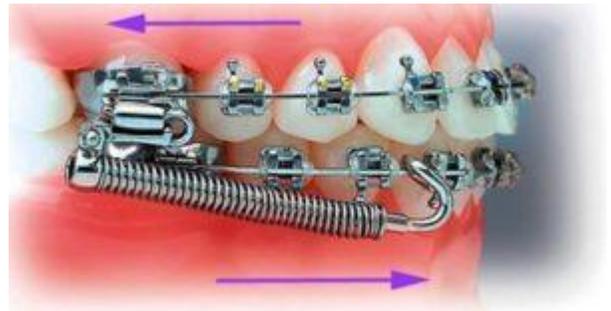


FORSUS (SPRINGS)



WHY AM I BEING TREATED WITH A FORSUS APPLIANCE? Growth of your child's face normally occurs with a forward movement of the upper and lower jaws, but sometimes this growth is not equal. If there is over-growth of the upper jaw or under-growth of the lower jaw, this often translates to an "overbite" and/or "overjet" and sometimes facial disharmony. Forsus uses intraoral pressure to push the teeth in the upper jaw back while pushing the lower teeth forward, so that they can meet better.

HOW IS A FORSUS WORN? The springs are attached to bands on the upper first molars and then connect onto the lower arch wire between the brackets. It is essentially a tube and spring to create the pushing forces.



HOW LONG DOES A FORSUS NEED TO BE WORN?

Forsus springs are often in place for 3-6 months on average. They are only removed by the doctor and will not be taken in and out by the patient.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER OPTIONS INSTEAD OF FORSUS?

Forsus appliances are often recommended after a patient has not been compliant with elastics and/or headgear as an alternative method to achieve a balanced occlusion (bite). Alternatively, a patient can choose to leave the overjet as it is, or on some occasions two upper premolars can be extracted and the front teeth will be moved back into the space created from their removal.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF SOMETHING BREAKS?

If a part does break, please call the office for an appointment. The Forsus is made up of two non-bonded pieces. One is like a pin that is inserted into the tube (spring).

You may compress the spring and then re-insert the push rod:



If you have trouble re-engaging the spring, or if something has broken, you may temporarily secure it with elastics or dental floss and then make an appointment to come into the office.



If either the spring or the push rod disconnects entirely from the braces, so that it is loose inside the mouth, remove the loose piece to avoid swallowing and schedule an appointment with our office.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I SHOULD KNOW OR DO? The first few days may be uncomfortable as you learn to adapt to eating with the Forsus in place. It is important not to break any brackets as it is difficult to repair them while the Forsus is in place.

Please contact the office if you feel pain or discomfort (other than mild tenderness).