

## **Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**

### Definition:

The specialty of Dentistry involved in the diagnosis and surgical treatment of diseases, injuries, and defects of the oral and maxillofacial region.

### Examples of the bones related to the maxillofacial region:

- Maxilla (Upper jaw)
- Mandible (lower jaw)
- Zygomatic bone
- Orbit
- Nasal bone

### Scope of the specialty:

Oral and maxillofacial specialists or consultants work with general dentists, physicians, and other dental specialists in the total treatment of a dental patient. Although many individuals commonly associate an oral and maxillofacial surgeon with the practice of extracting teeth or removal of third molars, such procedures are only a small part of the total responsibility of this specialty.

### Branches overview

- Dentoalveolar surgery
- Pathology
- Congenital deformities
- Trauma
- Temporomandibular joint disorders
- Cosmetic surgery (e.g. Orthognatic surgery)
- Reconstruction surgery
- Facial pain disorders
- Implants

### Examples:

- Dentoalveolar surgery
  - Examples:
  - Removal of impacted teeth
- Pathology
  - Examples:
  - Different lesions
  - Cysts
  - Tumors (benign and malignant)
- Congenital deformities
  - Examples:
  - Cleft lip
  - Cleft palate
- Trauma
  - Examples:
  - Fractures of the maxilla
  - Fractures of the mandible
  - Fractures of the midface
- Temporomandibular joint disorders
  - Examples:
  - Ankylosis (locked jaw)
  - Jaw dislocation
- Cosmetic surgery (e.g. Orthognatic surgery)
  - Examples:
  - Protruded lower jaw correction
  - Gummy smile correction
  - Long face correction
- Reconstruction surgery
  - Examples
  - Bone grafts
  - Free flaps
- Facial pain disorders
  - Examples:
  - Trigeminal neuralgia
  - Idiopathic facial pain
- Implants
  - Examples:
  - Replacement of missing teeth
  - Over denture