

Appendix 1 - Semi-Structured Interview with Orthodontists

1) What is your approach, if any, regarding athletic mouthguard use in your teenage orthodontic population?

Possible follow-ups:

- How is that implemented in your office?
- How often do you ask your patients whether they play contact sports?
- Are there specific patient characteristics that make you more likely to ask?
- Who initiates the conversation about mouthguards?
 - *“I don’t really make a recommendation unless someone asks me…”* How did you arrive at this approach?
 - *“I don’t usually make any recommendation…”* Can you tell me about the last experience you had with a patient regarding MG’s?
 - Who should be primarily responsible for educating patients on mouthguard use? Can you tell me how you arrived at this conclusion?
 - Do you ever collaborate with other professionals to reinforce mouthguard use, like other dentists, coaches, or teachers? Can you tell me about that?

2) What is your recommendation?

- Do you recommend different types of mouthguards, depending on the type of orthodontic treatment that is being done? (e.g., fixed appliances vs aligners)? What do you recommend? What about after debonding – do your recommendations change?
- You say you recommend a custom mouthguard, do you fabricate this yourself? Can you walk me through the process of how you make one, and how often should it be replaced?
- You say you recommend a boil-and-bite MG/ stock, do you provide these in your office? If not, where do you send patients to get one? Do you help fit or adjust it? How much do you charge for this type of mouthguard in your office? Do you make a profit on this service?
- Why do you provide this type of MG?

3) What has shaped your viewpoint and approach on athletic mouthguard use among your teenage orthodontic population?

Are there particular activities or patients that you are more likely to recommend MG use for? Why are you more likely to recommend use for this activity/patient?

- Have you had a patient that presented with dental and or orofacial injury? How has this experience altered your recommendation regarding mouthguards?

4) “I’ve asked you a lot of questions, is there anything else that you would like to add?”

As part of our research, we are also planning to ask orthodontic patients who play middle school or high-school basketball or football about their experience using mouthguards while wearing braces. Would you be willing to display a small notice at the reception area so that patients know they can participate in this internet research survey and earn \$10?”

5) What is your age?

6) What is your gender?

7) Where did you receive your DDS and MSD education and what year did you graduate?