

# Correction of Mandibular Prognathism in Combination with Polydiastema Using Rectangular Body Ostectomy: Literature Review and Case Report

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## Abstract

**Objective:** Mandibular prognathism is inadaptability between skull and mandible and is one phenotype of class III malocclusion. Polydiastema may be present together with class III malocclusion. Skeletal class III malocclusion with mandibular prognathism can be diagnosed by cephalometric parameters. **Study Design:** A 22-year-old man complaining about difficult mastication and speech was referred to Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. According to the cephalometric analysis of the patient in sagittal plane, maxilla was 3 mm behind and mandible was 1 mm ahead from the skull base. During presurgical orthodontic treatment, polydiastema was treated in maxilla and mandible. **Result and Conclusions:** Skeletal class III malocclusion requires an orthognathic surgical procedure including some techniques. One of these techniques is mandibular body ostectomy, which is performed often as a surgical procedure for skeletal class III malocclusion. Instead of sagittal split osteomy, the technique of madibular body ostectomy could be performed as an alternative

## Keywords

Body Ostectomy, Polydiastema, Mandibular Prognathism

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## 1. Introduction

The growth of the jaws and skull is associated with each other. This correlation may be changed by some etio-

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logic factors related to congenital, developmental or acquired factors [1]. Mandibular prognathism is inadaptability between skull and mandible and is one phenotype of class III malocclusion [2]. However, according to literature, class I represents the largest group of malocclusions, followed by class II and class III [3].

Classification of skeletal class III malocclusion is done according to the position of the maxilla and the mandible, the maxillary alveolus, the mandibular alveolus and vertical development [4].

Extraorally, class III malocclusion effects the patient's profile and appearance. Concave profile is detected in these events. Also it causes difficulties in speech and mastication [5]. Intraorally, class III malocclusion is shown as a result of mandibular prognathism. Upper first molar is distal to the lower first molar in class III malocclusion. Skeletal class III malocclusion with mandibular prognathism can be diagnosed by cephalometric parameters. Characteristics with statistical significance on some cephalometric parameters are prognathic position of skeletal pogonion, negative value of E-U lip (the distance from upper lip to esthetic line) and E-L lip, (the distance from lower lip to esthetic line), negative ANB angle, increased soft tissue lower anterior facial height [6].

The treatment of class III skeletal malocclusions has been one of the most difficult problems for orthodontists. Skeletal class III malocclusions may require a combination of orthodontic and surgical treatment, which are appropriate procedure for mandibular prognathism [7]. The combined treatment for class III skeletal malocclusions has been used to achieve a functional occlusion and a normal skeletal relationship [8]. Some events, the polydiastema may be present together with class III malocclusion. Polydiastema may cause various occlusal problems, which include missing teeth, dental anomalies, dental-jaw size discrepancies, and excessive overbite and overjet. Polydiastema is diagnosed by orthodontic records and cephalometric analysis [9]. In the literature, there are some treatment protocols for diastema closure such as orthodontic, restorative and prosthodontic treatments. Polydiastema should be treated by orthodontics [10].

The technique of body ostectomy was firstly improved and recommended by Blair in 1900s [11]. Rectangular mandibular body ostectomy as a technique of ostectomy is used for skeletal class III malocclusion with edentulous gaps in dental arch [5]. Especially, the patient, who has a normal maxilla with prognathic mandible, can be treated with this surgical procedure. This procedure includes a segmental resection of a defined section of mandibular body. Before the osteotomies and resection are performed, in order to avoid damage to the nerve, it is recommended to expose and reposition for the inferior alveolar canal. As far as we know, there is not any orthognathic surgery in the treatment of skeletal class III with polydiastema.

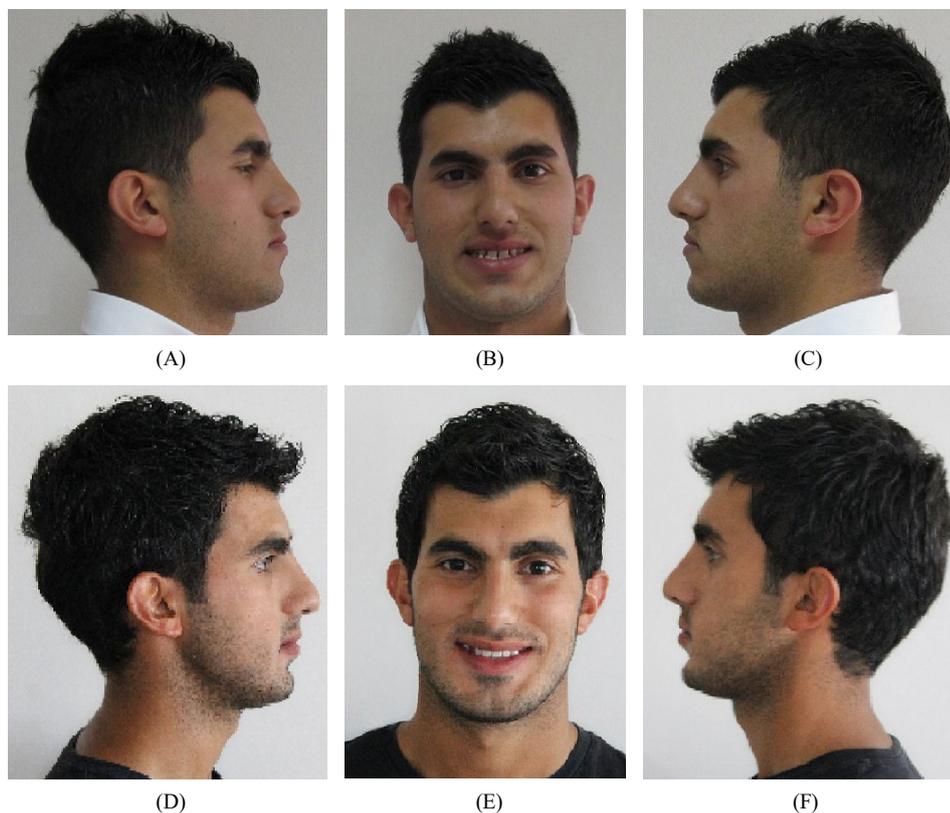
This case report describes a combined surgical and orthodontic treatment of a case with class III malocclusion with polydiastema.

## 2. Case Report

A 22-year-old man patient with complaints about difficult mastication and speech was referred to Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. His medical history revealed that there was no systemic disease. The pretreatment lateral cephalometric and panoramic radiographs, study models and intra-extraoral photographs were taken. His extraoral examination revealed concave profile with minimal facial asymmetry. His lower lip was protruded relative to the upper lip (**Figures 1(A)-(C)**).

Intraoral examination revealed a class I molar relationship and a class III canine malocclusion with negative over jet (**Figures 2(A)-(C)**). Upper right deciduous canine was still present. Polydiastema were present in the anterior region of the maxilla. Owing to skeletal class III malocclusion, diastema was existing between lower canine and lower first premolar. Periodontal problem was absent in his intraoral examination.

According to the cephalometric analysis of the patient in sagittal plane, maxilla was 3 mm behind and mandible was 1 mm ahead from the skull base. In addition, the length of patient's mid-face was 2 mm shorter and length of lower face was 3 mm longer than usual. In frontal plane, there was minimum asymmetry. ANB angle was  $-3$  degrees and SN/Go-Gn angle was 32 degrees. S-Go/N-Me ratio was 67% (**Table 1**). According to the cephalometric set-up planning, if the mandible had been taken 10 mm behind, acceptable results of soft tissue profile would be provided. Narrowing in the maxilla was absent according to the cephalometric evaluation. Middle line deviation was 2 mm to the right in mandible. Upper and lower incisors inclined protrusive. In the light of these findings and result of the consultation with department of orthodontics, a skeletal class III malocclusion was diagnosed. Orthognathic surgery was planned to achieve acceptable results in aesthetic and functional aspects.



**Figure 1.** (A), (B) and (C) extraoral photographs of the patient before treatment; (D), (E) and (F) extraoral photographs of the patient after treatment.



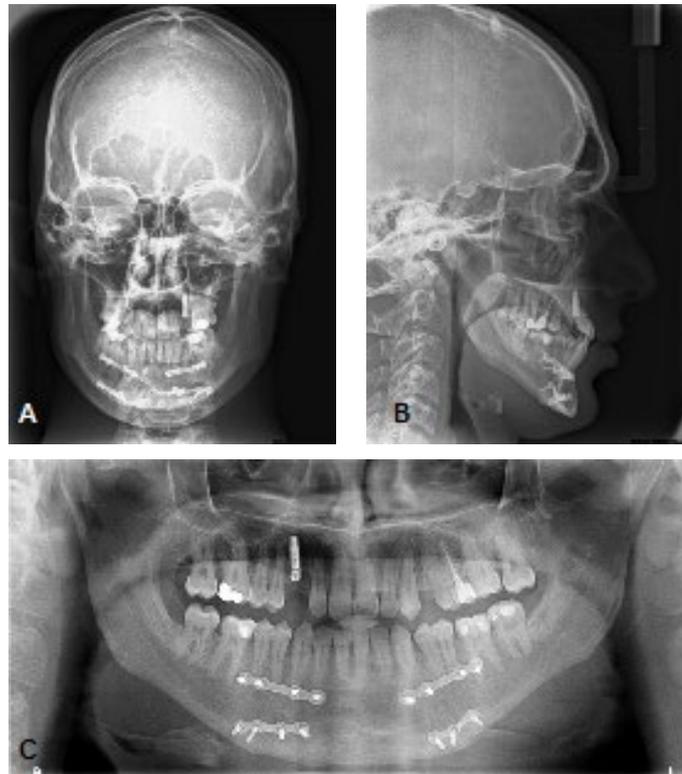
**Figure 2.** (A), (B) and (C) intraoral photographs of the patient before treatment; (D), (E) and (F) intraoral photographs of the patient in presurgical treatment; (G), (H) and (I) intraoral photographs of patient after treatment.

**Table 1.** Cephalometric analysis of case.

	Preoperative	Postsurgical
SNA	82°	84°
SNB	85°	82°
ANB	-3°	2°
NV-A	-3	-2
NV-Pg	-4	-2
Y axle	59°	60°
SN/ANS-PNS	10°	9°
SN/Occ.	14°	12°
SN/Go-Gn	32°	35°
ANS-PNS/Go-Gn	22°	28°
Co-A	85	79
Co-Gn	121	108
N-Me	120	112
N-ANS	52	50
ANS-Me	69	63
N-ANS/ANS-Me	54/66	50/62
S-Go	80	76
S-Go/N-Me	66%	67%
$\perp$ /SN	115	121°
$\perp$ /Go-Gn	94°	82°
$\perp$ /I	13°	123°
$\perp$ -NA	3 mm	4 mm
$\perp$ /NA	24°	35°
I-NB	8 mm	4 mm
Ī/NB	30°	20°
Pg-NB	4 mm	4 mm
Holdaway	0 mm	0 mm
E-Line		-5/-2

During presurgical orthodontic treatment, polydiastema was treated in maxilla and mandible. Deciduous upper right canine was extracted and protected its gap. In mandible, incisors were moved anteriorly to close the diastemas and provided bilaterally gaps at the posterior of the canines (**Figures 2(D)-(F)**). Before the surgery, a polysomnography test was performed to the patient. Apnea hypopnea index was within normal limits. For planning the osteotomy lines, a 3 dimensional solid model was provided and examined before the surgical procedure (**Figure 3**).

Before the surgical procedure, he was thoroughly informed about the procedure and signed a written consent. The operation was performed under general anesthesia. Bilateral N. alveolaris inferior anesthetics with vasoconstrictor were applied. Vertical and crestal incisions were made between the first premolar and canine teeth in



**Figure 3.** (A), (B) and (C) radiographic examination after treatment.

right and left side of mandible. Mucogingival flaps were raised (**Figure 4(A)**). The cortical bone plates were removed to expose the mental nerves (**Figure 4(B)** and **Figure 4(C)**). Osteotomy was planned as a rectangular. In each side, two parallel osteotomies were done with a burr. The neurovascular bundles were repositioned. Two bone blocks around 10 mm wide were removed (**Figure 4(D)**). Anterior mandibular segment was repositioned to the posterior. Following the intermaxillary fixation, anterior segment and basis of the mandible were secured with titanium miniplates. Bleeding control was provided, and the mucoperiosteal flap was repositioned. The flap was sutured with a 3/0 silk suture material. The postoperative healing period was uneventful. His orthodontic treatment was continued for more six months without any problem. After six months, canine relationships showed class I. After the healing period, one dental implant was placed into the gap of upper right canine (**Figures 5(A)-(C)**). The gap of the upper right canine was eventually restored with prosthesis.

### 3. Discussion

Skeletal class III malocclusion is the one of the most complicated problems in all dentofacial abnormalities [12]. This dentofacial abnormality requires an orthognathic surgical procedure includes some techniques. One of these techniques is mandibular body ostectomy, which is performed often as a surgical procedure for skeletal class III malocclusion [13]. The technique of body ostectomy was firstly explained by Blair in 1906 [11]. The indications of mandibular body ostectomy are as follows: Edentulous mandibular prognathism, if edentulous gaps are in posterior of dental arch, if occlusion in the posterior molar region is normal, and if retrusion of the whole mandible will result in the loss of the last present teeth [14].

According to indications, our patient's examination revealed a skeletal class III malocclusion with polydiastema. During the presurgical orthodontic treatment, patient's lower incisors were moved anteriorly and edentulous gaps were obtained. In our case, according to preoperative orthodontic assessment, mandible should be taken back 10 mm. According to the literature, if mandibular setback more than 15 mm required, sagittal split osteotomy should be done [15]. Thus, instead of sagittal split method, segmental osteotomy was planned.

The technique of mandibular body ostectomy provides some benefits to us for treatment of class III malocclusion. On the other hand, this technique may cause some complications. The potential complications of mandibular

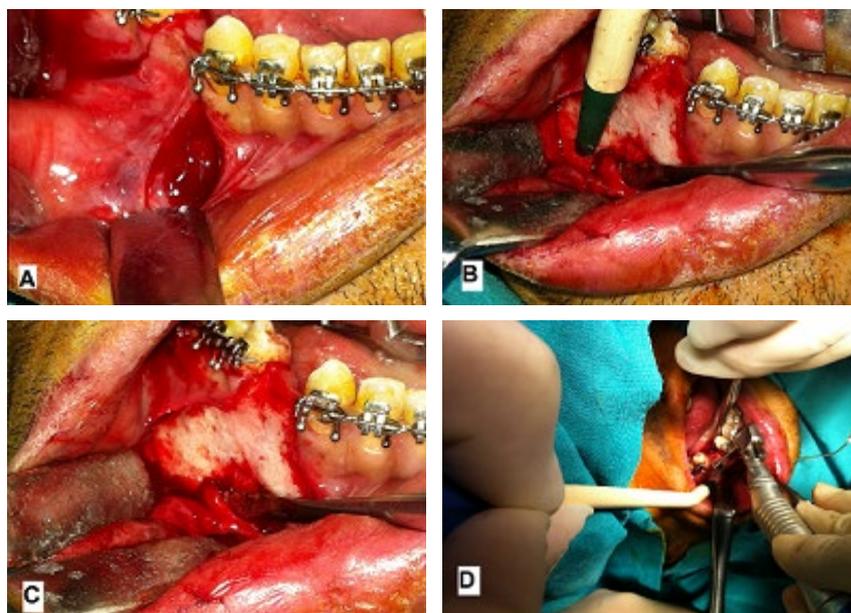


Figure 4. (A)-(D) surgical procedure.



Figure 5. Patient's 3 dimensional solid model.

body osteotomy are as follows: nerve damages, nonunion or delayed union skeletal relapse, periodontal problems of the teeth adjacent to the osteotomy sites, dental pulp devitalization and skeletal relapse [5].

There was not any complication in our case, and the postoperative healing period was uneventful. However, in the literature, the most encountered complication is skeletal relapse. Sinclair reported that the relapse of mandibular setback surgery is about 20% - 30% and is in the anterior direction. Some different factors are related with this situation. There are mandibular growth potential and postsurgical restrictions of the space available for the tongue [16]. Occlusal stabilization is important for avoiding relapse. Therefore, miniplates or screws are used for securing. If the osteotomy sites brings together with miniplates or screws, relapse does not appear. Especially, it was reported that the using screws for osteosynthesis is more efficient than using miniplates [17]. Although we used miniplates, there was not any relapse in our case. Additionally, Politi *et al.* analyzed skeletal stability after correction of skeletal class III malocclusion in relation to the type of fixation used to stabilize the mandible. This study showed that there were no differences between rigid fixation and wire osteosynthesis [18]. In addition to amount of mandibular setback, skeletal relapse in postoperative healing period is also important. According to Eggenesperger, mandibular setback surgery could be done until 12 mm to avoid risk of skeletal re-

lapse [19]. In accordance with the literature, anterior segment of the mandible was taken back 10 mm in our patient. Thereby, there was not any skeletal relapse in postoperative 6 months period.

Sometimes, facial asymmetry accompanies with skeletal class III malocclusion in high rates [1], but our patient's facial asymmetry was minimum. According to the literature, a decrease in the volume of posterior air space, and sleep apnea could be occurred after this surgical procedure [20]. In our case, narrowing of the posterior air space and sleep apnea did not exist after healing period.

Postsurgical examination was evaluated by orthopantomogram, lateral cephalogram and posteroanterior cephalogram. Especially, lateral and posteroanterior cephalograms are very important for assessment of pre-post surgical procedure [21]. In presurgical period, three dimensional solid model was used for planning the surgical procedure. Also, this planning gave us extremely important visual data and made the surgery easier. Some cases require bimaxillary surgery which is a harder surgery than a single jaw surgery [17]. Because a single jaw surgery was performed, occlusal plane alteration required a less aggressive surgery in our case. Additionally, expectation of postoperative complications has been less than bimaxillary surgery.

According to patient's cephalometric analysis it was necessary to interfere with upper jaw surgery. On the other hand, both the patient's need for treatment of soft tissue profile and polidiastema, removal of segmental part of the lower jaw rather than upper jaw surgery thought to be more appropriate. In fact, we have obtained in the postoperative period the patient's clinical appearance of the soft tissue profile and verifies that what we say nature.

#### 4. Conclusion

The mandibular body ostectomy can provide satisfying results in skeletal class III malocclusion cases. Instead of Obwegeser II osteotomy, the technique of mandibular body ostectomy could be performed as an alternative. Correct diagnosis, proper treatment plan using imaging techniques and cooperation between surgeon and orthodontist play a key role in success.

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