

# C A M D E N

## m e d i c a l c e n t r e

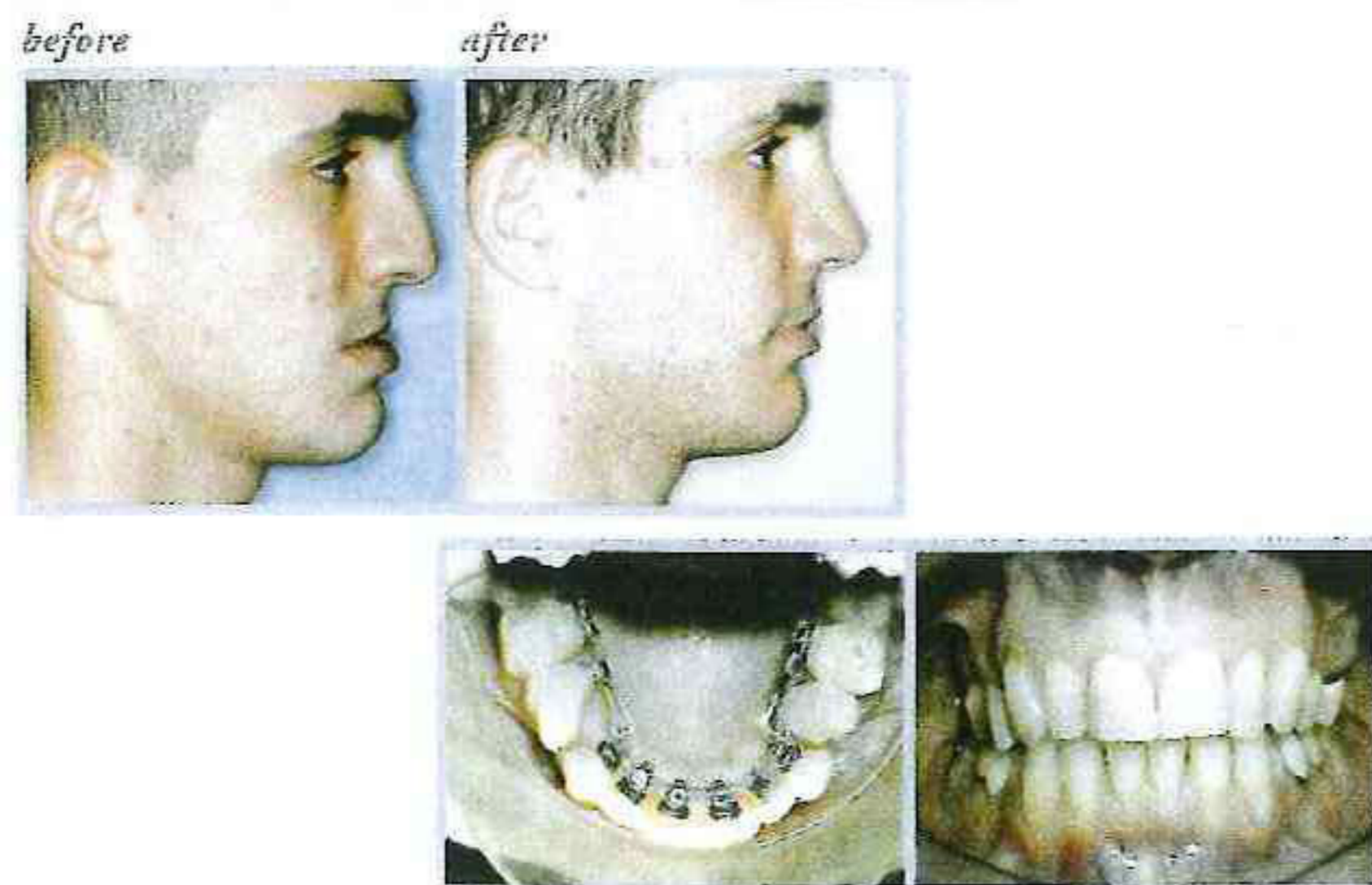
THE ONE-STOP SPECIALIST CENTRE

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### Dr. Catherine Lee Orthodontics

**D**r. Catherine Lee Orthodontics focuses on orthodontic treatment ranging from general orthodontics for children and adults, to complex surgical orthodontic cases including jaw surgeries for improving aesthetic and jaw function, and special patients with cleft-craniofacial conditions.

Located at #06-05 Camden Medical Centre, the state-of-the-art facilities include the latest digital x-ray machines (OPG and head films) to reduce exposure to radiation. Additionally, orthodontists employ a comprehensive imaging software package to achieve optimal treatment planning.



### Strong-Jawed Face Values

**Many people know that braces straighten crooked teeth but may not realize that orthodontic treatment achieves more than beautiful smiles. Here are some frequently asked questions:**

Orthodontics is a branch of dentistry that specializes in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of dental and facial irregularities.

#### Why is orthodontic treatment important?

The orthodontist's goal is to achieve both a beautiful and *healthy* smile for the patient. Crooked and crowded teeth may cause tooth decay, gum disease, tooth loss, abnormal wear of tooth surfaces, excess stress on supporting bone and gum tissue, or misalignment of the jaw joints with resultant chronic headaches or pain in the face or neck. Many orthodontic problems become worse and often more costly to treat in later years. The importance of an attractive smile should not be underestimated. A person's self-esteem often improves as treatment brings teeth, lips and face into harmony. This way, orthodontic treatment can benefit social and career success as well as improve one's general attitude towards life.

#### When should the treatment begin?

The American Association of Orthodontists recommends that every child first visit an orthodontist by age of 7 - or earlier if any orthodontic problems are detected by parents, the family dentist or the child's physician. Although orthodontic treatment is usually associated with adolescence, an early examination, however, allows the orthodontic specialist to determine when a child's particular problem should be treated for

maximum improvement with the least time and expense. In many patients, early treatment achieves results that are unattainable once the face and jaws have finished growing.

#### What about Adult treatment?

Orthodontic treatment can be successful at any age. The biological process involved in tooth movement is the same in adults and children. The health of an individual's teeth, gums and supporting bone are the most important determinants for improving an adult's smile and dental health. Since the facial bones are no longer growing, certain corrections cannot be accomplished with braces alone. However, very dramatic facial changes are now being achieved with a combined approach of surgery and orthodontics for individuals who elect to receive this type of treatment.

#### What are the types of braces available?

There are basically 3 types of braces: metal and tooth coloured braces on the outside, and the invisible braces on the inside (Lingual Braces). The metal braces are usually used on children and teenagers due to reason like poor oral hygiene attention, the tooth coloured braces are usually used in individuals who want to have a more natural look. The invisible braces are usually used on individuals who do not want to have braces showing during treatment, due to reasons like work constraints and aesthetics.