

TMJ Disorders

The Temporo-mandibular-joint (TMJ) is a complex joint connecting the lower jaw with the skull base. The TMJ is constantly in use as it participates in speech, chewing and swallowing. Disorders of the TMJ, also known as TMD, affect many people. The exact cause of a person's TMJ disorder is often difficult to determine. Your pain may be due to a combination of factors, such as overuse, genetics, arthritis or jaw injury. Some people who have jaw pain also tend to clench or grind their teeth (bruxism), although many people habitually clench or grind their teeth and never develop TMJ disorders. Common symptoms of a TMD are:

- Pain or tenderness of your jaw
- Pain in one or both of the temporomandibular joints
- Aching pain in and around your ear
- Difficulty chewing or pain while chewing
- Aching facial pain
- Locking of the joint, making it difficult to open or close your mouth

In most cases, the pain and discomfort associated with TMJ disorders is temporary and can be relieved with self-managed care or nonsurgical treatments. Further treatment may involve splint therapy, physiotherapy and selective medications such as Botox, NSAID and others.

Surgery is typically a last resort after conservative measures have failed, but some people with TMJ disorders may benefit from surgical treatments. Besides offering a wide range of nonsurgical therapies, Swiss Maxillofacial Associates offer the full scope of surgical procedures of the TMJ.

- Arthrocentesis (Wash out) of Jaw Joint
- Arthroscopy of the Jaw Joint
- Open Jaw Joint Surgery
- Kiefergelenksersatz (Prothese)