

Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Award

Dr. Dimitrios Michelogiannakis, *Eastman Institute for Oral Health, University of Rochester*

Biography

I received my dental degree (DDS) from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, School of Dentistry, Athens, Greece in 2012; and completed a 3-year specialty training program in Orthodontics and Master of Science degree (MS) at the Eastman Institute for Oral Health (EIOH), University of Rochester, NY in 2017. I am a diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, and have received further certifications in the field of Orthodontics such as from the Charles H. Tweed International Foundation and the Wilckodontics Certification in Accelerated Osteogenic Orthodontics. I currently serve full-time as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Dentistry at the EIOH; and maintain a faculty practice limited to Orthodontics. I supervise residents in the Orthodontics Clinic at EIOH, teach several courses, and mentor postgraduate residents during the conduction of their research projects. My main research focus has been to evaluate the influence of various systemic and local factors on orthodontic tooth movement and related parameters; and I have contributed several publications in peer-reviewed journals including scientific articles and a book chapter. I am honored to be awarded the 2020 Subtelny, Baker, Eastman Teaching Fellowship Award.



Project Synopsis

The present research project is focused on assessing changes in airway space dimensions with non-extraction clear aligner therapy in adult patients with mild to moderate crowding. Various orthodontic treatment modalities such as maxillary expansion and functional appliance therapy may influence upper airway dimensions. In recent years, clear aligner therapy has gained popularity especially in adult patients due to its esthetic advantages and relative invisibility compared to conventional braces. However, there is insufficient evidence in indexed literature regarding the influence of non-extraction clear aligner therapy on airway volume. In this regard, I am conducting a retrospective study which will utilize cone beam computed tomographic images of adult patients with mild to moderate crowding to assess potential changes in the airway dimensions before and after non-extraction clear aligner therapy at the level of the nasal cavity, nasopharynx and oropharynx. In addition, I am also conducting a retrospective study which will investigate the influence of non-extraction clear aligner therapy on the presence and magnitude of alveolar bone dehiscences and fenestrations in adults with mild to moderate crowding. These projects will hopefully clarify the influence of non-extraction clear aligner therapy on the airway dimensions and alveolar bone in adult patients.

Importance of AAOF support

Support from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF) will be instrumental to conduct the aforementioned research and will help me pursue faculty training and participation in educational workshops. In addition, the award will help me to further develop as an Orthodontic Educator, scholar and independent researcher.