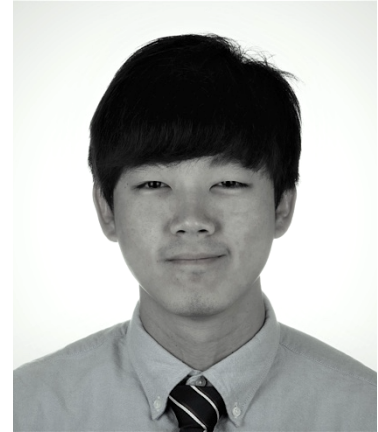


American Association of Orthodontists Foundation 2021 Research Aid Award Dr. Puttipong Sripinun, *University of Pennsylvania*

Biography

Dr. Puttipong Sripinun is currently in his second year of the 5-year Orthodontics/Doctor of Science in Dentistry program at the Department of Orthodontics, University of Pennsylvania, School of Dental Medicine. He completed his dental degree in 2017 from the Faculty of Dentistry, Chiang Mai University, Thailand.

His passion has always rested upon both translational science and clinical research, especially in the field of craniofacial syndromes, with a set career trajectory to pursue and excel in being both a clinician and researcher.



Project Description

Cleft lip and palate (CLP) is among the most common of all birth defects while representing the craniofacial structure's most frequent congenital anomalies. Every cleft is unique; however, a prevailing multidisciplinary therapeutic protocol is frequently tailored from as early as the beginning of their life up to the end of adolescence. This protocol combines a series of surgical procedures, including secondary alveolar bone graft (SABG). SABG plays an integral part in the cleft lip and palate surgical treatment series as a standard of care among most cleft centers across the States; however, this procedure's approaches are not standardized, including the precise timing to operate. Given the annotation of contradicting time points for this therapeutic procedure, further study is needed for a definitive conclusion to compare outcomes of early versus intermediate SABG.

The purposes of this study are to advance our understanding in choosing the most favorable time for alveolar bone grafting and to identify the relationship of appropriate dental age criteria for the timing of secondary alveolar bone graft in early and intermediate SABG in non-syndromic cleft lip and cleft palate that will provide the most favorable prognosis.

Importance of AAOF Funding.

With the generosity and support from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF) for their indispensable resource toward orthodontic residents, the project initiation is possible. This opportunity provided by the AAOF will play a pivotal role in helping me embark on my future academic career.