A new survey has found that UK adults are increasingly likely to opt for orthodontic treatment. (Photograph: Phoenixns/Shutterstock)

A new survey of orthodontists by the British Orthodontic Society (BOS) has confirmed this, as an increase in adult private patients was reported by 75% of the respondents. The survey, conducted last month among BOS members, was designed to gather new data about orthodontics and patient choices in the UK. The results revealed that adult patients are more likely to be female, in the 26–55 years age range, and primarily treated with fixed orthodontic appliances with clear aesthetic brackets or with clear aligners.

According to the BOS, 60% of the respondents said that the increase in their number of adult private patients was due to a heightened awareness of adult orthodontic options. More than 10% of orthodontists added that celebrities and bloggers can influence their adult patients.

Dr Peter McCallum, BOS Director of External Relations, commented: “It is interesting to see the number of adults interested in orthodontic treatment remains high. Our members, specialists and dentists with a special interest, offer a range of options for adults, enabling them to provide a solution to any kind of orthodontic problem. The value of informed choice cannot be overstated.”

**LONDON, UK:** Though orthodontic treatment was once thought to be something only for teenagers, its generally non-invasive nature has led to it becoming something that adult patients increasingly request. A new survey of orthodontists by the British Orthodontic Society (BOS) has confirmed this, as an increase in adult private patients (BOS) has confirmed this, as an increase in adult private patients was reported by 75% of the respondents.

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**USC researchers seek to understand craniofacial abnormalities**

By DTI

**LOS ANGELES, U.S.:** Most birth defects involve the face and skull and scientists are still unable to explain this phenomenon. The University of Southern California (USC) has recently received a substantial grant for a project that is aimed at collecting data, DNA samples and images related to abnormalities of the head and facial bones. The research data will help gain a better understanding of the issue and foster interdisciplinary collaboration between medical experts.

Orofacial clefts are fairly common birth defects. If the cleft extends through the upper gingivae, it may affect tooth development.

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Researchers from the University of Southern California’s dentistry and engineering schools have recently received financial support for their research project. (Photograph: Rungruader/Shutterstock)