Align Technology supports Saudi community by addressing dental issues of teens and younger patients

By Align Technology, Inc

JEDDAH, KSA: Align Technology, a global medical device company engaged in the design, manufacture and marketing of the Invisalign system, the most advanced clear aligner system in the world, and iTero intraoral scanners and services for orthodontic and restorative dentistry, will put a spotlight on teen and younger patient’s oral care during 13th Annual Conference of the Saudi Orthodontic Society (SOS).

The leading dental event in the Middle East, taking place in Jeddah between February 21 – 24, will see dental professionals and industry leaders from across the region presenting key innovations and findings from the fields of orthodontics and dental health. Align Technology is one of the sponsors of this edition of the conference.

Align’s focus on teen and younger patient’s dental occlusion complements the focus of the Ministry of Health to strengthen dental practice in Saudi Arabia. It is estimated that the number of dental clinics will increase to more than 4,000 in the next two to three years amid increasing numbers of cases with malocclusion, reported among 6 to 12-year-olds. Further, independent research* in the Kingdom cites the prevalence of types of malocclusion among schoolchildren.

During the event, Align Technology will be highlighting two of its orthodontic solutions – the Invisalign Comprehensive treatment with Mandibular Advancement feature, developed specifically for teenage patients, which has received regulatory clearance by the Saudi Food & Drug Administration (SFDA) and will be commercially available in the near future. Align will also present the future release of Invisalign First treatment for younger patients with early mixed dentition, typically 6 to 10 years of age.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is an important market for Align as it looks to provide Invisalign trained doctors with the best customer experience; the company has recently reduced the shipping time of its products to doctors in the Kingdom by as much as 40 per cent, allowing doctors to serve their patients more quickly and efficiently.

The Invisalign Comprehensive Treatment with Mandibular Advancement feature can help address Class II type of malocclusion, more commonly known as an overbite, which is one of the leading reasons teenagers undergo an orthodontic treatment. With the Invisalign solution, the required corrective procedure – encouraging the lower jaw to move forward while straightening the teeth at the same time – can be done without the use of any traditional appliances.

The Invisalign Comprehensive treatment with Mandibular Advancement feature is manufactured using patented SmartTrack material and features precision wings that are situated between the premolars and first molars. As children bite down, the wings engage and hold the lower jaw (mandible) in a forward (advanced) position.

This will lead to the jaw shifting incrementally forward to its proper place over time and the lower jaw growing into the appropriate size to match the upper jaw, thus overcoming the overbite problem. The aligners autonomously move and level the teeth.

Invisalign aligners can be removed for eating and drinking, thus having no food restrictions, and since they are not fixed, they allow teens to brush and floss their teeth freely. They are also virtually invisible and may help them feel more confident.

Similarly, Invisalign First clear aligners are designed with features developed specifically for younger patients with early mixed dentition – a mixture of primary/baby and permanent teeth. They address a broad range of malocclusions, including shorter clinical crowns, management of erupting dentition, and predictable dental arch expansion. The early treatment will help prevent severe problems and alignment issues as the children grow.

Masoud Chauqi, Align Technology, General Manager, Middle East and Africa, said: “We are delighted to extend our support to the SOS community and to highlight Invisalign orthodontic solutions that assist dental professionals in addressing as many as 80% annual orthodontic case starts, especially when treating dental malocclusions of teens and younger patients. Through our participation at the Conference, as well as our ongoing commitment to offering dental professionals advanced orthodontic solutions that help drive digitalization of orthodontics, we are proudly supporting Vision 2030 transformation, set forth by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in which enhancing the wellbeing of the community is top priority.”

For additional information about the Invisalign system or to find an Invisalign provider in your area, please visit www.invisalign.com or for additional information about the iTero digital scanning system, please visit www.ero.com.