

The Transformative Role of Artificial Intelligence in Orthodontics: Revolutionizing Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

ShahabKavousinejad ^a

^aAssistant Professor, Dept. of Orthodontics, School of Dentistry, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

Correspondence to Farshid Bastami (Email: dr.shahab.k93@gmail.com).

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Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies in orthodontics improve accuracy and personalization, automating tasks such as identifying reference points in cephalograms, assessing skeletal age, and predicting treatment needs. Treatment planning is streamlined, reducing duration and enhancing outcomes. Machine learning enables virtual exploration of treatment options and prediction of tooth movement. AI visualization tools improve patient communication. Ethical considerations and patient privacy are important. AI complements orthodontists' expertise, resulting in personalized plans and improved outcomes.

Keywords: Orthodontics; Artificial intelligence

I am writing to express my enthusiasm for the remarkable advancements that artificial intelligence (AI) has brought to the field of orthodontics, specifically in the areas of diagnosis and treatment planning. The integration of AI technologies has revolutionized the way orthodontic conditions are assessed, leading to more accurate diagnoses and personalized treatment approaches.

Traditionally, orthodontic diagnosis and treatment planning relied heavily on manual examination, patient histories, study cast analysis, and cephalometry analysis. While these methods have served the profession well, they are subject to human error and variation in interpretation. However, with the advent of AI, orthodontists now have access to sophisticated algorithms and data-driven models (deep learning and machine learning) that enhance their decision-making processes.¹ AI-powered diagnostic tools have shown tremendous potential in improving the accuracy and efficiency of auto detection of anatomical reference points in lateral cephalograms², skeletal age assessment using cervical vertebral bones³, Predicting the need for orthodontic treatment,⁴ orthodontic diagnoses of surgery or non-surgery⁵ and extraction plans.⁶

Furthermore, AI has significantly contributed to streamlining treatment planning processes, reducing treatment duration⁷, and enhancing treatment outcomes. By analyzing patient data and utilizing machine learning

techniques, AI algorithms can predict the movement of teeth and simulate the effects of different orthodontic interventions.⁸ This allows orthodontists to explore various treatment options virtually, assess their potential outcomes, and select the most effective and efficient approach for each patient.⁹

With AI-powered visualization tools, patients can visualize the predicted results of orthodontic treatment, fostering better communication between patients and orthodontists and enabling informed decision-making. It is essential to acknowledge that AI in orthodontics does not replace the expertise and human touch of orthodontists. Instead, it serves as a powerful tool that complements their skills, enabling them to deliver more accurate diagnoses, personalized treatment plans, and improved patient outcomes. However, as with any technology, ethical considerations and patient privacy must be paramount. Striking a balance between harnessing the potential of AI and ensuring the responsible use of patient data is crucial.

In conclusion, the integration of AI in orthodontics, particularly in the areas of diagnosis and treatment planning, has ushered in a new era of precision and effectiveness. By leveraging the power of AI algorithms, orthodontists can provide patients with personalized treatment plans, shorter treatment durations, and optimal outcomes.

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