Bite Feels Wrong or Jaw Aches After Dental Work: What to Do Next

Canonical: https://directory.collinsstreetspecialistcentre.com.au/treatment-guides/bite-feels-wrong-or-jaw-aches-after-dental-work-what-to-do-next/

Description:

Bite still feels wrong or jaw aching, clicking or locking after new crowns, veneers or implants? Causes, assessment and treatment options in Melbourne.

Details:

It is common for your bite to feel a little different for a short time after new crowns, veneers, implants, bridges or orthodontic treatment. If it still feels wrong a couple of weeks later, or your jaw has started to ache, click or lock, have it assessed rather than waiting for it to settle.

What bite and jaw symptoms should I watch for?

- Teeth that do not meet evenly, or touch on one side first
- Aching or tired jaw muscles, or headaches
- Clicking or locking, or difficulty opening your mouth wide
- New dental work that chips or breaks again and again
- Teeth that have become sensitive or sore to bite on

Why does a bite change after dental work?

- New crowns, veneers or bridges that sit too high, or that change how your teeth guide the jaw
- A change in bite height across the whole mouth that the jaw muscles have not adjusted to
- Grinding or clenching, which an uneven bite can make worse
- In some people, an underlying jaw joint condition or a problem with how the jaws relate to each other

How do we assess it?

First comes a complimentary review where Dr Kia Pajouhesh, general dentist and practice principal, checks how your teeth meet and listens to how the change began. The review is free of charge, it places you under no obligation to book further assessment or treatment, and the offer carries no time limit; if you then see a specialist or need imaging, those are charged and the fees are explained before you book. A specialist assessment can then cover:

- your bite, jaw joints and jaw muscles
- your recent dental work and how it affects your bite
- imaging of the jaw joints where needed
- assessment by a prosthodontist, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, or both

What could treatment involve?

- Careful adjustment of the bite
- A custom splint or night guard
- Changing or replacing the dental work causing the problem
- Managing jaw muscle and joint symptoms, including referral for TMD therapy where appropriate
- For problems with how the jaws relate, assessment for orthodontics or jaw surgery

Many bite problems can be improved by adjusting particular teeth or restorations, without redoing all of your dental work.

Who may be involved?

Dr Ricky Kumar (TMJ and TMD) and A/Prof Patrishia Bordbar (jaw surgery), both with specialist registration in oral and maxillofacial surgery, and prosthodontists Prof Vasileios Chronopoulos, Dr Fotios Angelis and Dr Jamie Foong, each with specialist registration in prosthodontics. Check any registration on the AHPRA register.

Frequently asked questions

My bite has felt wrong since my new crowns went in. Will it settle?

Small changes often settle within a few days. If it still feels wrong after a couple of weeks, or your jaw is sore, have it checked.

Will I need all my dental work redone to fix my bite?

Often not. Many bite problems improve with adjustments or changes to particular teeth or restorations.

Results, recovery times and risks vary for each individual.

Book a bite and jaw review

Call (03) 9650 2726 to arrange a complimentary review of your bite at Collins Street Specialist Centre, Level 8, 220 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Related pages

- Complex Case Review and Second Opinion
- A crown or bridge that keeps coming off or hurting
- Veneers that chip, look bulky or leave sore gums
- TMJ disorder diagnosis and surgical treatment
- Bite and jaw (TMJ) problems after dental treatment on our website