



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

## **Patient Rights**

**Patients have the right to know the following facts:**

### **Importance of Dental Care**

1. People who received good dental care live longer.
2. Poor oral health has been linked to heart disease and cancer.
3. People who receive orthodontics are more attractive.
4. Poor dental health can cause bad breath.
5. Investment in dental health usually leads to long term savings, better facial appearance, and/or a longer healthier happier life.

### **TMJ Dislocations**

1. TMJ dislocation can cause pain and headaches
2. TMJ can lead to severe wearing and complete destruction of teeth
3. TMJ can progress to lockjaw which may require surgery.

### **Bone Growth**

1. Bones are the foundation of the teeth and the face
2. If bones are not healthy, teeth can become loose and fall out.
3. Facial bones are a major factor in determining facial esthetics
4. Improper bone position can accentuate sleep apnea and snoring
5. Proper bone positioning is needed for proper teeth positioning.
6. Improper position of teeth causes food to be impacted which causes loss of teeth.
7. Teeth positioning is the major factor in beautiful smiles.

We would like to thank you for choosing Dr. David J. Rudolph for your orthodontic needs. It is our pleasure to serve you.



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

### **Affordable Care**

On your first appointment, we can talk to you about the benefits of your current dental insurance and explain to you what your out-of-pocket will be with your insurance. We will try to see save you as much as possible. There is always an out-of-pocket fee for treatment but we are here to help you. We can answer any questions you have in regards to your insurance and how to finance your out-of-pocket responsibility. Our office is flexible when it comes to financing; we work hard on finding you a monthly payment you are comfortable with so you can receive the treatment that is important for you or your loved one.

### **Insurance Information:**

We are one of the few orthodontists that are approved to accept all insurances including all HMO's, PPO plans. We will be happy to call and verify your insurance benefits and take care of the paperwork and explain what your benefits are for orthodontics. After all the paper work is done and sent to our central office for processing we submit a *\*claim to your insurance company* for them to cover their part. Please provide the following information to our office on day of appointment to submit insurance claims as soon as received to make sure your account gets credited.

*\*Insurance claims are sent to PPO plans only.*

### **Information needed to submit insurance claims:**

- Full name (subscriber and dependant, if applicable)
- Current address
- Date of Birth(subscriber and dependent, if applicable)
- Social security number
- Employer name

Your insurance company will also send an Explanation of Benefits notifying you about any payments sent to our office.

We pride ourselves in offering the best financing options to our patients.

#### **1. Pay-In-Full**

- An additional discount may apply.

#### **2. Financing Companies (Third party financing)**

We are excited to announce that we also accept payment from all Dentist Financing companies.

- NO DOWN PAYMENT REQUIRED
- Offers you ZERO interest plans (limited period of time to pay off)
- Offers you INTEREST plans (longer period of time to pay off)

- We may be also to offer an additional discount upon approval of signing up.
- We work with all major companies in our office including Chase Health Advance, Care Credit,
- and Citi Health Card.

#### **3. Co-Signers**

- We also work with co-signers. We provide them with the information they need and give them updates of treatment, if needed.

At the time of appointment our staff will go over the necessary information, explain what options you have, and answer all questions you may have. After your first appointment there is no need to produce any payments when you or your child come for an orthodontic appointment (applies to patients who are using a finance company only). Accounting is simple, statements are sent to you directly from the finance company.



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

## **Getting Started**

The sequence is typical, but depending on the individual case, it may vary.

### **1. First Appointment**

*(Likely to be a long appointment)*

- a. Orthodontic examination
- b. Treatment options defined
- c. Payment plans defined
- d. Contract and informed consent signed

(Study models taken and copies of all documents signed given to patient)

\*Study models are moldings of the teeth taken with special material that looks like clay.

\*X-ray prescription given.

### **2. Second Appointment**

*(Likely to be a shorter appointment)*

- Appliance Delivery

The second appointment could more measurements or delivery of appliances.

### **3. Following Appointments**

*(Likely to be a short appointment)*

- Appliance Adjustments



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

## **Your First Visit**

During your first visit Dr. Rudolph will do a thorough comprehensive orthodontic examination. The examination will consist of evaluating the jaw joints (TMJ), bite, bones (facial structure), and teeth. He will make sure that the bones are growing properly. He will evaluate the size, shape, proportion and symmetry of the facial bones.

Dr. Rudolph will explain to you the best treatment for your orthodontic needs, what appliance you will be wearing (if needed), and how everything can get fixed.

Afterwards, one of our treatment managers will explain the importance of the treatment recommended by Dr. Rudolph , answer all questions you may have in regards to the treatment , explain the benefits of your insurance and how it will help you save , explain your co-payment and find you the best payment plan for you.

The treatment managers will also provide you with an orthodontic contract which explains the treatment that will be started, what the treatment includes, the length of the treatment, and the payment plan that was chosen. A referral to an x-ray laboratory will be given to you to get the special orthodontic x-rays that the doctor will need for the detailed treatment and will be useful in evaluation the progress of your treatment and all the necessary copies of paperwork will be provided to you.

On that day one of our doctors will take impressions of the teeth to make moldings for Study Models. Dr. Rudolph and our laboratory will also hand-make the appliances necessary for your treatment (study models are moldings of the teeth taken with special material that looks like clay). With these moldings Dr. Rudolph will be able to finalize the detail of treatment and also plan future adjustments.



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

## **Patient Information**

### **TMJ therapy (also known as TMD)**

TMJ dysfunction is often a dislocation of the jaw joint. One sign is that you can hear or feel a clicking as the jaw joint dislocates out and back into place. Sometimes there is no clicking as it is completely dislocated. The patient may go through life with headaches, jaw or muscle pain. This can lead to lock jaw where the patient cannot eat and may require surgery. Unfortunately we cannot predict which patient will develop lock jaw. So the patient is taking a risk if they leave TMJ untreated. The patient may also clench or grind the teeth at night. This could lead to excessive wearing, weakening or broken teeth. This can lead to the complete destruction of the crown of the tooth. The result could be a full mouth reconstruction of all the teeth. Which could cost the patient \$50,000 or more? Symptoms associated with TMJ disorders may be:

- ❖ Biting , chewing difficulty or discomfort
- ❖ Clicking, popping, or grating sound when opening or closing the mouth
- ❖ Dull, aching pain in the face
- ❖ Earache (particularly in the morning)
- ❖ Headache(particularly in the morning)
- ❖ Migraine (particularly in the morning)
- ❖ Jaw pain or tenderness of the jaw
- ❖ Reduced ability to open or close the mouth

### **Phase I (Bone Treatment)**

Incorrect bone growth or formation is usually the underlying problem for most orthodontic patients. Phase I treatment is to make the bones grow or form better. The bones may have incorrect size, shape, proportion, or symmetry Often the upper and lower jaw sizes do not match. Sometimes the bones are too small and in order to fit the teeth. When the bones do not match the bite is usually off and the face is not as attractive as it could be. When the bones grow better and in the correct formation, there is more room for the teeth to fit in so we can save all of your teeth. When there is not enough room for the teeth, the teeth are crooked and it may be impossible to completely clean them food gets caught in between the teeth and causes infections. This can result in all types of problems including cavities, declassifications, and gum disease. Perhaps the biggest problem to worry about is periodontal disease where the bone that holds the teeth in the mouth disintegrates and the teeth fall out. The bones get infected. These infections can travel through the blood to different organs. If it gets to the heart it can be extremely dangerous.

- A. Phase I treatment is that helps fix the bite so we usually do not need to pull the teeth or do surgery. The Upper and Lower jaws need to match so chewing is efficient when you bite. Efficient and effective chewing can lead to better nutrition, better health and a longer happier life.
- B. Finally, the best thing is that when the bones grow better the face will look better and look more attractive.

Different appliances can be used to guide the bones to grow properly. We use the very best made appliances customized to each of our individual patients. These appliances are comfortable and easy to wear. They are the very best quality so they don't need to be adjusted often.

The cost of neglecting dental care can be huge in the long run. Dentistry is one field of medicine where if you invest money in the present you can actually end up spending much, much less in the long run.

### **Phase II Braces (Teeth Straightening)**

We have every single type of braces. We use the best materials so we can move the teeth more efficiently and effectively. Most Orthodontist take 2 or 3 years making the patient come in every month. We can usually take 1 year and the patient only has to come in every 2 or 3 months.



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

## **How to Choose an Orthodontist**

### **1) Training**

Most Orthodontists have an additional 2-3 years of orthodontic training after Dental School. Dr. Rudolph is one of the only few orthodontists to have received 5 years of Orthodontic education.

### **2) Education**

Most Orthodontists have a dental degree and may have a masters degree; however, Dr. Rudolph has seven degrees. He is also one of the only few orthodontists to have both a Master of Science and a Ph.D.

### **3) Academics**

Dr. Rudolph was a full time professor at UCLA for over five years. He has trained many orthodontists. He has taught both orthodontic and dental students, as well as medical scientist. He was the Pre doctoral Program Director in charge of the Orthodontic Portion of the dental clinic at UCLA.

### **4) Teaching**

Dr. Rudolph has taught at USC, UCLA, and the University of North Carolina.

He has taught almost all of the major courses in Orthodontics.

He was the Course Chair of Craniofacial Growth and Development.

He has taught Dentists the ability to modify a patient's growth.

He was the Course Chair in Biomechanics in Orthodontics teaching Orthodontists how to move teeth.

He was the Course Chair in Orthodontic Research.

He has lectured nationally and internationally.

### **5) Research**

Dr. Rudolph has published over 10 articles. This includes articles in the most prestigious Orthodontic Journals. He is one of the very few Orthodontists who have had his research funded and received grants. He was the Director of Orthodontic Research at UCLA in the Section of Orthodontics.

### **6) Experience**

Dr. Rudolph has more than 20 years of experience in Orthodontics. He has treated over 10,000 patients over the course of his career. He was the UCLA Team Dentist for both the Football and Basketball. He has treated many Dentists, Physicians, Attorneys and TV personalities.



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

### **About Dr. Rudolph:**

Dr. David J. Rudolph is a board eligible orthodontist that brings 20 plus years of experience in the fields of orthodontics.

Dr. Rudolph has held faculty positions at both UCLA and USC. He has extensive teaching and research experience.

Dr. Rudolph has an exceptional education, including 7 college degrees. He has degrees in Physics and Chemistry from Denison University in Ohio. He also has a degree in Molecular Biology/Biochemistry from the University of California in Santa Barbara. In addition he has a Doctorate in Dental Surgery and a Masters Degree in Oral Biology from UCLA. He also has a PhD in Biomedical Engineering and Mathematics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Dr. Rudolph formerly served as a full time faculty and the Pre doctoral Program Director of the orthodontic portion of dental clinic at UCLA. Dr. Rudolph served as the Course Chairman for Craniofacial Growth and Development, Biomechanics in Orthodontics, and Research in Orthodontics for the Orthodontic Residents for five years at UCLA. He was one of a handful of Orthodontists that treated patients at the UCLA faculty clinic and taught at USC.

Throughout his career he has been an international lecturer in the field of orthodontics and has been a member of multiple professional organizations including the American Association of Orthodontics, American Dental Association, and American Association of Dental Research. He has also been awarded grant funding on studies in which he was the principle investigator. He has received national awards in dentistry and orthodontics.

Dr. Rudolph has successfully treated over 10,000 patients including members of the UCLA football and basketball teams, physicians, dentists, attorneys, and television personalities. Dr. Rudolph specializes in orthodontics and TMJ therapy, using the most current, highest quality, and cost effective treatment methods.



---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

## **About Us:**

Dr. Rudolph and his talented staff work hard to bring beautiful smiles to the Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Antelope Valley, Bakersfield, Oxnard, and the Orange County area in a variety of convenient locations. We have been providing care for more than 20 years.

With a focus on orthodontics for children and adults, we are skilled in the latest techniques and with latest equipment in orthodontic care. Our staff will ensure that you have an enjoyable experience. Many of our staff members also have a doctorate degree. We provide multiple orthodontic treatment options to cater to your unique smile. These options include TMJ treatment, Phase I (Bone treatment), braces for children and adults. We offer every type of braces including: Mini metal braces, Crystal braces; removable braces clear trays and much more.

Our vast experience enables us to provide you with the best results with unsurprisingly efficiency. Our braces usually take one year to complete.

- We have successfully provided treatment to over 10,000 patients
- We are not only able to provide beautiful smiles and straight teeth but better health and a better life.
- Our treatment can be a LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE.
- Our treatment improves facial appearance without surgery.
- Our treatment prevents, pain, and headaches, and excessive wear of the teeth.

Getting orthodontic treatment is an important commitment to make, and we are here to help. We look forward to seeing you at your consultation!





---

*Dr. David J. Rudolph D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D. Practice Limited to Orthodontics*  
818-718-1737 F: 818-718-1735

---

We look forward to meeting you for your initial consultation. At this time, Dr. Rudolph will perform an initial orthodontic examination and will address any questions or concerns you may have. During the exam your jaw joint (TMJ), bone structure, and alignment of the teeth will be evaluated. You will be told of any deviations from normal.

After the exam, our friendly staff will also walk you through the steps that are needed in order to proceed with treatment (i.e. x-rays, models). They will also talk to you about how to take advantage of your insurance benefits and answer any questions you may have.

In most cases, and a desire from you to proceed, we could begin the records process that same day. The first step of the records process is to take an impression for Study Models. This process usually takes approximately 15-20 minutes.

For your convenience, we have included information that may be helpful to you. The enclosed material will help you to understand and prepare you for your initial visit.

Included in this package is:

- 1. About us**
- 2. About Dr. Rudolph**
- 3. How to choose an Orthodontist**
- 4. Patient Information**
- 5. Your first visit**
- 6. Getting started**
- 7. Affordable Care**
- 8. Patient Rights**
- 9. Patient Information /Health History**

The **Patient Information / Health History** form is the last form with this packet. If you fill out this form now it will save you time on the initial visit. Please complete your portion of the form and bring it in with you for your consultation.

If you have any questions about the information provided, please contact our office at (818)718-1737.