

*Limited Mouth Opening*  
*Diagnosis & Treatment*

A thesis

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## Abstract

Limited mouth opening is commonly problems for patients presented in the clinic of dentist, oral surgeon, and any health specialist work in the or through orofacial region. Limited mouth opening has a large number of potential causes ranging from simple non-progressive to life threaten causes. Many authors made many studies and suggest many definitions, classifications, and different treatment plans for the causes of limited mouth opening.

The aim of the study was to measure the average of interincisal distance at maximum moth opening for a sample in Baghdad city residents. And to study the different causes, and treatments of limited mouth opening.

The estimated average of interincisal distance at maximum painless mouth opening measured by metallic millimeter ruler 45.13mm.and for adult above 20years the average was 49.152mm m mm..

Males measurement average was 46.87mm and for the adult males above 20 years was 49.748mm. And for females average reading was 43.88mm and for adult females above 20 years was 48.795mm.

A study group of 131 patients complaining of limited mouth opening as followed: (38 patients due to infection, 73 patients due to trauma, 4 patients due to tumors and tumors treatment, 14 patients due to temporomandibular joint diseases, one patient with pemphigus vulgaris and one patient with hysterical trismus).

The treatment was according to etiological factor either medical, surgical, physiotherapeutical, or combination between them.

In medication : antibiotics, analgesics, and sedative were used according to the condition of the patient.

In surgeries: surgical intervention for removal of infected tooth, opening an access for drainage of abscess, removal of ankylosed segment in mandible, or correction of fractures or treating wounds or deformities caused by trauma.

In physiotherapy: wooden tongue depressors for mandibular stretching exercise were used in daily manner.

In most of the patients, a combination between the above methods required to reach good results.