



## Special Issue

# The topic of Special issue on “Orofacial Clefts”

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### Special Issue Introduction

Orofacial clefts (OFCs) represent one of the most common and burdensome birth defects in humans. In most of cases, several functional and aesthetic changes, such as anatomic deformities, language and hearing problems, and dental anomalies can be observed. The lip, alveolar ridge and palate are the most commonly affected regions. Therefore, treatment for patients with OFCs generally requires several surgeries, including cheiloplasty, palatoplasty and alveolar graft. In this context, the main aims of the surgical procedures are: to reconstruct the anatomy of the alveolar arch and the face, and to restore the functions of the palate, lip muscles, and nose. However, the restriction caused by the primary surgical treatments for patients with OFCs on facial growth, dental arch morphology and aesthetics, is still a much discussed topic among surgeons, physicians and scientists. Moreover, various other health interventions performed by specialists in interdisciplinary teams are essential for successful treatment of OFCs. Thus, this special issue is intended to include articles from all disciplines involved in the treatment of patients with OFCs, with emphasis on surgical and aesthetic aspects.

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