

# VIRTUOSUM

Dr Sean O'Callaghan  
BDSC (MELB), CERT ORTH (CWRU), MSD (CWRU) CLEVELAND USA

## Bionator

### Why Do I Need A Bionator Appliance?

Because you are still growing, Dr O'Callaghan will use a Bionator Appliance to guide your natural growth and assist the lower jaw to grow further forward. A bionator is a plastic bite splint appliance which stimulates the forward growth of the lower jaw while restraining the growth of the upper jaw.



QuickTime™ and a  
Graphics decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

### What Is A Bionator Appliance?

A removable appliance, which stimulates the forward growth of the lower jaw while restraining the growth of the upper jaw.

### How Do We Fit A Bionator Appliance?

- Impressions of your upper and lower teeth will be taken so that the Bionator Appliance may be constructed.

Once the Bionator Appliance has been constructed, it will be inserted into your mouth.

## **Getting Used to The Bionator Appliance**

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- Your brain will think that there is food in your mouth and excess saliva will be produced
- Initially, you will be slurping excessively, but this should subside within 2-3 days as you become more accustomed to your Bionator Appliance.
- Initially, your speech will be affected, as your tongue can no longer rest in its normal position. It is important for you to practice speaking aloud, speaking slowly and pronouncing each word carefully.
- After 2-3 days, you will become accustomed to your Bionator Appliance and you may even forget that it is in your mouth!
- If any areas become tender, please call Dr O'Callaghan's Rooms and an appointment will be made to adjust your Bionator appliance.

## **How Do I Clean My Bionator Appliance?**

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- It is important to remove your Bionator Appliance when you are brushing your teeth.
- It is very important for you to clean your Bionator Appliance extremely carefully. If food is not effectively removed from your appliance, it may cause dental decay and gum problems.
- It is important that you use only your toothbrush, toothpaste and cold water to clean your Bionator Appliance. Placing your appliance in straight **white vinegar** can also remove any stains and smells. Place in **white vinegar** for approximately 15 mins then rinse with cold water and clean with your toothbrush.
- Never use hot water or chemicals to clean your Bionator Appliance. This will distort your appliance and a new appliance may be required.
- Please ensure that you do not forget to brush and floss the rest of your teeth as usual
- It is important that you brush and floss your teeth after every meal, in the morning and before you go to bed at night!

## **What Should I Eat Now that I have My Bionator Appliance?**

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- The Bionator Appliance will affect your bite and it will take 2-3 days to become accustomed to your new biting pattern.
- Your Bionator Appliance is delicate and easily damaged. It is important to replace your appliance in the case provided, each time it is removed from your mouth.
- It is important that you remove the appliance before meals.
- Please do not forget to clean your teeth and replace your Bionator Appliance once you have finished eating.

- **Please avoid:**

**Hot Liquids** such as soup or hot drinks while you are wearing your Bionator Appliance

**Sweet Drinks** such as Coke, Diet Coke, Pepsi, Diet Pepsi and any sports drinks

**Chewing** such foods as chewing gum

### **What Happens If I Break My Appliance?**

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- Broken or dislodged appliances are likely to occur from time to time during your orthodontic treatment. If there is any disturbance such as loose bands, broken or poking wires, please call our Rooms and we will evaluate the urgency of your problem and schedule an appointment accordingly. In fairness to the other scheduled patients, we are **unable** to see you for unscheduled appointments **before or after** school. These appointments will need to be made during school hours.