**Glossary**

**Allergic rhinitis**  Swelling of the membrane in the nasal chamber due to allergic reactions; the condition may obstruct breathing

**Alveolar ridge**  The bony arches of the maxilla (upper jaw) and mandible (lower jaw) that contain the teeth

**Alveolus**  The bony area that supports the teeth

**Anomaly**  Irregularity

**Anterior**  Front

**Appliance, dental**  A device worn in the mouth to provide a dental benefit

**Articulation**  The process of forming and expressing speech sounds

**Articulation disorder**  The omission or ineffective expression of speech sounds

**Articulation test**  A test that evaluates how an individual's speech sounds are formed

**Atelectasis**  Collapse of eardrum, which separates the outer ear from the middle ear chamber

**Atresia**  The lack of closure of a normal body orifice or passage

**Audiogram**  A standard graph that records the results of hearing sensitivity testing
**Audiologic evaluation**  A variety of procedures used to measure hearing sensitivity

**Audiologist**  A person holding a degree and certification in audiology (the science of hearing), who identifies, measures, and rehabilitates people with hearing impairments

**Audiology**  The study of hearing and hearing disorders

**Audiometer**  An electronic instrument designed to measure hearing sensitivity

**Bifid uvula**  Uvula muscle divided into two parts

**Bilateral**  Having two sides, or pertaining to both sides

**Bone graft**  A transplant or movement of bone from one site to another

**Braces**  Orthodontic appliance attached to the teeth used to move them into a better position

**Bridge**  Fixed or removable appliance used to replace missing teeth and to help maintain the corrected dental arch form

**Buccal**  Pertaining to the cheek

**Buccal segments of maxilla**  The side portions of the upper jaw that are adjacent to the cheeks

**Cephalometric tracing**  Anatomic drawings made from x-ray films of the head

**Cephalometric analysis**  Head measurements made from the anatomic drawings of the head

**Cineradiography**  Motion picture recording of the lip, tongue, soft palate, and lower jaw activity; it is often used to evaluate the anatomic movements involved in speech

**Cleft**  Split or divided; refers to muscle, skin, or bone
  - Bilateral cleft: affecting both sides
  - Unilateral cleft: affecting only one side

**Cleft lip**  Congenital deformity of the upper lip that varies from a notching to a complete division of the lip; any degree of clefting can exist

**Cleft palate**  Split in the middle of the palate that may extend through the uvula, soft palate, and into the hard palate; the lip may or may not be involved in the cleft
Cleft palate craniofacial team  Group of professionals involved in the care and treatment of patients having cleft palate and other craniofacial malformations; consists of representatives from some of the following specialties: pediatrics, plastic surgery, otolaryngology, audiology, speech pathology, pedodontics, psychiatry, orthodontics, prosthodontics, psychology, social service, nursing, radiology, genetics, and oral surgery

Columella  The central lower portion of the nose that divides the nostrils

Communication disorder  Any interference with one’s ability to comprehend or express ideas, experiences, knowledge, and feelings

Comprehension  Knowledge or understanding of spoken and written information

Congenital  A disease, deformity, or deficiency existing at birth

Craniofacial  Involving the cranium, or part of the skull that encloses the brain, and the face

Crossbite occlusion  Condition in which the upper teeth are positioned behind the lower teeth, instead of in the normal position

Deciduous teeth  The first teeth, known as baby or primary teeth, which are eventually replaced by permanent teeth

Denasality  A lack of nasal quality of the voice; there is a lack of nasal resonance for the sounds \( m, n, \) and \( ng \) due to insufficient nasal air flow

Dental arch  The curved structure of the upper and lower jaws formed by the teeth in their normal position on the alveolar ridges

Dental crown  Cover for a tooth that is made by a dentist

Ear  The organ of hearing, which is divided into three parts: the outer, middle, and inner ear

Ear canal  The external canal leading from the outer ear to the eardrum (tympanic membrane)

Eardrum  Tympanic membrane; it vibrates and transmits sound from the canal to the middle ear

Effusion  Accumulation of fluid in the middle ear
**E.N.T.** Common medical abbreviation for “ear, nose, and throat”

**Erupt, eruption** The emergence of a tooth through the gums and its supporting bone

**Eustachian tube** The air duct that connects the nasopharynx (located in the back of the throat and above the hard [bony] palate) with the middle ear; it is usually closed at one end, but opens with yawning and swallowing; it allows ventilation of the middle ear cavity and equalization of pressure on both sides of the eardrum

**Evaluation** Assessment

**Expander** Appliance used to widen the upper dental arch

**Extraction** Removal (in this case, of teeth)

**Fistula** Abnormal opening from the mouth to the nasal cavity remaining after surgical closure of the original cleft

**Genetics** The science of heredity

**Gingiva** Gums

**Hard palate** The bony portion of the roof of the mouth

**“Hare lip”** Outdated term for cleft lip

**Hearing impairment** A loss in hearing, ranging from mild to complete

**Heredity** Characteristics and traits genetically derived from one’s ancestors

**Hyernasality** Excessive nasal resonance during speech due to an excess of air flow into the nasal chamber

**Hyponasality** Lack of nasal resonance during speech due to a marked decrease in air flow

**Impedance audiometry** Physiologic hearing test used to measure air pressure in the middle ear cavity and the ability of the eardrum to function normally

**Incidence** Frequency of occurrence

**Incisor** A tooth that is located in the front of the mouth between the cuspsids

**Inferior** Lower

**Inner ear** The internal portion of the ear that contains the sensory end organs used for hearing and balance
**Intermaxillary fixation**  The use of elastics and/or wires to stabilize the upper to lower arches after surgery to one or both jaws

**Language disorder or impairment**  Difficulty with language comprehension or expression; an interference with the ability to communicate effectively

**Larynx**  The upper part of the windpipe that contains the vocal chords

**Lateral**  Relating to the side

**Logan’s bow**  An appliance used to keep the lips together before lip surgery to reduce tension at the suture site

**Malocclusion**  A deviation from normal occlusion (the way the teeth should meet), or an incorrect alignment or position of the upper with the lower teeth; any number of teeth may be involved

**Mandible**  U-shaped bone forming the lower jaw

**Mandibular**  Relating to the mandible or lower jaw

**Maxilla**  The bone forming the upper jaw

**Maxillary**  Relating to the maxilla or upper jaw

**Maxillary orthopedics**  The movement of palatal segments by the use of appliances

**Medial**  In, near, or positioned toward the middle

**Micrognathia**  A condition characterized by abnormal smallness of the jaw

**Middle ear**  Portion of the ear containing the three small bones of the ossicular chain that transfers sound from the eardrum to the inner ear; it is attached to the tympanic membrane on one end and the oval window at the other end

**Mucoperiosteum**  Connective tissue (periosteum) that has a mucous surface that contacts bone on one side

**Mucosa**  The outer layer of the soft tissue lining that covers the bone (in this case, in the mouth)

**Multifactorial**  Having many factors or causes

**Myringotomy**  A minor surgical procedure in which a small slit is made in the eardrum, allowing fluid to drain from the middle ear; it may or may not involve placement of ventilating tubes
Nasal  Pertaining to the nose or nasal cavity
Nasal alae  The wings of the nostrils
Nasal cavity  Passageway from the nostrils to the back of the throat
Nasal chamber  The enclosed space within the nose
Nasal emission or nasal escape  The flow of air through the nose, usually indicative of an incomplete seal between the cavities of the mouth and the nose
Nasopharyngoscope  A lighted telescopic instrument used for examining the nasal passages in the back of the throat; it is also useful in assessing velopharyngeal closure
Nasopharynx  The area in the back of the throat, at and above the soft palate
Obturator  A plastic (acrylic) appliance, usually removable, used to close a cleft in the hard palate; it is sometimes used to aid in feeding
Occlude  To block
Occlusion  Relationship between the upper and lower teeth when they are in contact; it refers to the alignment of teeth as well as the relationship of the dental arches
Oral cavity  The mouth, whose boundaries are the lips and teeth in the front and the soft palate in the rear
Orofacial  Relating to the mouth and face
Oropharynx  The area of the pharynx below the soft palate and above the esophagus and continuous with the mouth
Orthodontics  The specialty of dentistry concerned with the correction and prevention of irregularities and malocclusion of the teeth and jaws
Orthognathic  Dealing with the cause and treatment of malposition of the jaw bones
Orthopedics  The movement of bone by means of appliances rather than surgery
Ossicles  Three bones in the middle ear that transfer energy from sound waves in the tympanic membrane into the inner ear, where hearing sensors are located
Otitis media  Inflammation of the middle ear, where thick mucous fluid accumulates; this is a special problem for infants with cleft palates
**Otolaryngologist**  Physician specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the ear and larynx; commonly referred to as an ear, nose, and throat (E.N.T.) specialist

**Otoscope**  An instrument used for visual examination of the external ear and eardrum

**Overbite**  The distance of the upper to lower teeth in the vertical dimension

**Overjet**  The distance between the upper and lower teeth in the horizontal dimension

**Palatal insufficiency**  Velopharyngeal insufficiency; the inability to control air flow through the nose and mouth (too much air enters the nose)

**Palatal lift appliance**  A removable plastic appliance with an extension reaching backward that lifts the soft palate

**Palate**  The roof of the mouth, including the front portion or hard palate, and the rear portion or soft palate (velum)

**Pediatrician**  Physician specializing in pediatrics, the area of medicine dealing with the health and diseases of children and adolescents

**Pediatric dentist**  A dentist specializing in dental care for children and adolescents

**Pedodontics**  Pediatric dentistry: the specialty of dentistry concerned with the care of children’s and adolescent’s teeth

**Periosteum**  Connective tissue layer that covers bones

**Pharyngeal**  Relating to the pharynx, the back of the throat

**Pharyngeal flap**  A surgical procedure that aids in velopharyngeal closure; a flap of skin (mucosa) taken from the back of the throat and attached to the soft palate is used to close most of the openings between the oropharynx and nasopharynx during swallowing and speech

**Pharynx**  Back of the throat

**Posterior**  Back

**Premaxilla**  The front part of the upper jaw containing the front teeth (the incisors); in children with clefts to the alveolus the number of incisor teeth is highly variable
**Prolabium**  The central part of the lip attached to the premaxilla

**Prosthesis**  A device used to replace a missing body part, in this case teeth to maintain the upper jaw arch form and/or to aid speech function

**Retrognathic**  Lower or upper jaw behind its normal position as related to the opposing jaw and other craniofacial structures

**Rigid fixation**  The use of metal plates and/or screws to stabilize bone manipulated by surgery

**Septum, nasal**  Dividing wall or partition between the two nasal cavities

**Simonart’s band**  Bands of soft tissue (skin and muscle) that bridge a cleft of the lip

**Sphincter pharyngoplasty**  A surgical procedure used to channel the flow of air through the mouth by reducing the nasopharyngeal opening

**Superior**  Upper

**Teratogen**  Something causing physical defects in the developing embryo

**Tympanic membrane**  Eardrum

**Unilateral**  One-sided

**Uvula**  Muscle extension on the soft palate that can be seen as fleshy lobe in the midline of the throat; it is thought to aid in air-flow control

**Velopharyngeal**  Pertaining to the soft palate and pharynx

**Velopharyngeal incompetence**  Inadequate velopharyngeal closure resulting in hypernasality (excessive flow of air through the nose); also called Velopharyngeal insufficiency

**Velum**  The soft palate

**Vomer (adj., vomerine)**  The bony part of the nasal partition that separates the nose into right and left halves; it is attached to the hard palate