Cleft Lip and Palate Surgery

The goal of these surgeries is to **restore the jaw and facial structures**, leading to normal function and improved appearance.

A cleft palate can be on one or both sides of the roof of the mouth and may go the full length of the palate.

**Care and treatment must consider**

- Function
- Improved appearance
- Nutrition
- Speech
- Hearing
- Emotional and psychological development

**6 – 12 weeks**

Children born with **cleft lip** usually have surgery between 6 and 12 weeks of age.

**6 – 12 months**

Those with **cleft palate** often require multiple surgeries over many years, usually starting between 6 and 12 months old.

**1 in 600**

A cleft lip or **cleft palate** is a physical defect that occurs in 1 in every 600 live births.

**A team of healthcare specialists**

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons play an important role in the carefully orchestrated, multiple-stage correctional plan.

Visit [MyOMS.org](https://www.MyOMS.org) to learn more and find an oral and maxillofacial surgeon near you.  
*This information is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.*