## **Original Article**

# The relationship between temporomandibular joint disk displacement and mandibular asymmetry in skeletal Class III patients

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#### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** To investigate the relationship between temporomandibular joint disk displacement (TMJ DD) and facial asymmetry in skeletal Class III patients.

**Materials and Methods:** The subjects comprised 97 skeletal Class III adult patients seeking orthodontic treatment. In addition to the routine lateral and posteroanterior (PA) cephalograms, and regardless of the TMJ status, each subject consented to magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to evaluate their TMJs. According to MRI readings, subjects were classified into four groups: group 1, bilateral normal disk position; group 2, bilateral DD with or without reduction; group 3, DD more advanced on the right side; and group 4, DD more advanced on the left side. PA and lateral cephalometric variables were analyzed to compare the four groups.

**Results:** When the TMJ DD was more advanced on one side than on the other, the chin point usually deviated to the advanced side. When the TMJ DD status was equal or bilaterally normal, the amount of mandibular deviation was not significant.

**Conclusions:** If a skeletal Class III patient has an asymmetric face, especially in the mandibular region, careful examination is necessary with regard to the status of the TMJ during orthodontic diagnosis and treatment planning. (*Angle Orthod.* 2011;81:624–631.)

KEY WORDS: TMJ disk displacement; Mandibular asymmetry; Skeletal Class III

## INTRODUCTION

Internal derangement (ID) is an orthopedic term, defined as a localized mechanical fault interfering with smooth joint movement. Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) ID is characterized by progressive displacement of the TMJ disk.<sup>1</sup> Form and function are considered to be closely related, and a potential relationship between

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TMJ ID and facial growth aberrations resulting in mandibular asymmetry or retrognathia has been previously suggested.<sup>2–4</sup> Although the etiology of skeletal asymmetry is not well understood, it has been suggested<sup>2</sup> that joint degeneration may lead to a shortening of the condyle, with subsequent skeletal asymmetry.

Various imaging techniques, such as transcranial radiography, tomography, arthrography, computed tomography, and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), can be utilized to evaluate the TMJ. Among the techniques, MRI may have the most advantages. This technique is noninvasive and uses no ionizing radiation. Multiplanar imaging is readily obtainable. It permits a direct visualization of soft tissue components and allows easy bilateral assessment. In addition, MRI demonstrates a high diagnostic accuracy in determining the articular disk position related to the condyle and articular eminence.<sup>5–7</sup>

TMJ ID has been suggested<sup>8–11</sup> to affect skeletal morphology. Facial symmetry is known to be an important characteristic in the etiology of TMJ ID.<sup>12</sup> It has also been suggested<sup>13–19</sup> that TMJ ID might be associated with skeletal changes. In addition, there exists a relationship between the type of malocclusion and the prevalence of asymmetry.<sup>20,21</sup> Therefore, the purpose of this study was to investigate the relation-

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ships between TMJ ID and facial asymmetry using MRI readings in skeletal Class III patients.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The subject population comprised adult patients with skeletal Class III malocclusion who visited the Department of Orthodontics at Seoul National University Dental Hospital for orthodontic treatment during the 2000-2005 period. Before orthodontic treatment, we recommended that patients with skeletal Class III malocclusion have a TMJ MRI performed, regardless of their symptoms or facial asymmetry. This random subject collection was based on the Poisson sampling model without fixing the total sample size. Ninetyseven patients (60 females and 37 males) with a mean age of 22.1 years agreed and became our subjects. The criteria for selecting the patients were that they were nongrowing adults with a skeletal Class III malocclusion (assessed by ANB, Wits appraisal, and mandibular body length), had at least one molar relationship showing Class III Angle classification, and had no obvious health problems, trauma, or growth disturbances. The institutional review board at this university was not instituted until 2005. Hence, we could not obtain institutional approval for this project.

MRIs were obtained using a Signa Horison (GE, Waukesha, Wis) operating at 1.5 T and a unilateral 3inch surface receiver coil. Closed-mouth images were obtained at maximum dental intercuspation, and openmouth images were taken at maximum unassisted vertical mandibular opening using a Burnett bidirectional TMJ device (Medrad, Pittsburgh, Pa). The images were interpreted by a radiologist. The subjects were divided according to the MRI status of both of their TMJs into the four following groups (Figure 1): group 1: normal disk position in both TMJs; group 2: disk displacement (DD) with reduction (DDR) in both TMJs or DD without reduction (DDNR) in both TMJs; group 3: the TMJ ID was more advanced on the right side (ie, when the left TMJ was normal and the right TMJ showed DDR or DDNR or when the left TMJ was DDR and the right TMJ showed DDNR); and group 4: the TMJ ID was more advanced on the left side (ie, when the right condyle was normal and the left condyle showed DDR or DDNR or when the right condyle was DDR and left condyle showed DDNR).

Posteroanterior (PA) and lateral cephalograms of each patient (taken with teeth in habitual maximum intercuspation and lips in repose with a magnification ratio of 1:1) were traced by one of the authors. The tracings were then digitized and analyzed. For the lateral cephalometric radiograph, 11 linear, seven angular, and three proportional measurements were analyzed for the lateral cephalometric evaluation of the cranial base, maxilla, mandible, antero-posterior relationships, and vertical relationships (Figure 2).

To evaluate the facial asymmetry, the landmarks on the PA cephalogram were identified with the methods recommended by Sassouni<sup>22</sup> and Ricketts et al.<sup>23</sup> (Figure 3). According to methods outlined in previous studies,<sup>22,24,25</sup> the facial midline was defined as a line perpendicular to the line connecting Lo and Lo' through Nc. When the landmark was located left of the midline, a positive value was assigned.

One-way analysis of variance and Scheffè multiple comparisons was utilized to compare the four groups. Relative risk ratio was calculated to measure how much facial asymmetry influenced the risk of asymmetric DD.

## RESULTS

The distribution of subjects according to TMJ MRI reading, gender, and mean age of each group is summarized in Table 1. Sixty percent of subjects had DDR or DDNR in at least one of their TMJs, and 40% of subjects showed normal disk status (Table 2). Out of 194 total TMJs, 75 TMJs (38.7%) had DDR or DDNR. Among the 97 patients, 63 patients had TMJ symptoms, which showed no statistically significant difference between the MRI findings. The most frequent symptom for each TMJ was "TMJ sounds only" (40–50%), followed by "both pain and sounds" (24–30%) (Table 3).

Although there were few differences in the lateral cephalometric variables, including FMA, facial height ratio, and mandibular incisor to FH plane, the Scheffè's multiple comparisons did not indicate statistical significance (Table 4).

Table 5 reports the comparisons of the PA cephalometric variables among the four groups. The linear measurements evaluating the amount of maxillary asymmetry (ANS-Mid and U1-Mid) were not significant. However, the linear variables evaluating the amount of mandibular asymmetry (L1-Mid and Men-Mid) did show significant differences. Since a positive sign indicates that the landmark was located left of the midline, the results demonstrate that there was a rightsided mandibular shift in group 3 and a left-sided mandibular shift in group 4.

To eliminate the effect of positive and negative signs and to concentrate on the quantitative comparison, the absolute values of each variable were taken and compared. Comparisons of the absolute value of linear measurements also demonstrated statistical significance at L1-Mid and Men-Mid. This indicates that the absolute amount of mandibular asymmetry was greater in groups 3 and 4 than in groups 1 and 2. The angular measurement that evaluates vertical asymmetry demonstrated that all of the variables



Figure 1. Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) images: left, closed mouth; right, open mouth. Top, normal status; middle, anterior disk displacement with reduction; bottom, anterior disk displacement without reduction.

(FMxP, FOP, and FMdP) resulted in statistical differences. However, in the comparisons of the absolute value of angular measurements, only FMdP was statistically significant.

The relative risks for the amount of mandibular deviation were calculated by comparing groups 3 and

4 to groups 1 and 2 (Table 6). The relative risk of groups 3 and 4 over groups 1 and 2 for the deviation of menton more than 3 mm was 2.26. For the deviation of the midline of the lower incisors more than 2 mm, the relative risk was 1.93. For a FMdP angle of greater than  $3^{\circ}$ , the relative risk was 2.27.



**Figure 2.** Lateral cephalometric analysis. Left, lateral cephalometric landmarks: 1, sella; 2, nasion; 3, orbitale; 4, porion; 5, articulare; 6, gonion; 7, anterior nasal spine; 8, posterior nasal spine; 9, subspinale; 10, supramentale; 11, pogonion; 12, menton: 13, crown tip of upper central incisor; 14, crown tip of lower central incisor. Middle, linear measurement of lateral cephalometry: 1, S-N; 2, S-Ar; 3, Pog to N perpendicular; 4, Wits appraisal; 5, anterior facial height (N-Me); 6, posterior facial height angle (S-Go); 7, ramus height (Ar-Go); 8, mandibular body length (Go-Me). Right, angular measurements: 1, SNA angle; 2, SNB angle; 3, ANB; 4, FMA; 6, SN to mandibular plane angle; 7, FH to palatal plane angle; 7, articular angle; 8, mandibular incisor to FH plane; 9, gonial angle.

#### DISCUSSION

There have been a number of studies that have attempted to correlate temporomandibular disease (TMD) and skeletal morphology, especially with regard to facial asymmetry. Most previous studies included patients with TMD symptoms or facial asymmetry but did not focus on specific skeletal features. Our study randomized skeletal Class III patients with and without TMD symptoms or asymmetry and analyzed features of lateral and PA cephalograms in combination with MRI readings.

There are a number of causes for facial asymmetry as well as for TMJ DD. Thus, it is difficult to describe the clear cause and effect between them. However, to date the data indicate that facial asymmetry, especially mandibular asymmetry, can influence the shape and function of the TMJ and vice versa. In other words, TMJ DD can be the cause of facial asymmetry.<sup>13,14,26,27</sup> If DD becomes progressive, it might cause bony



**Figure 3.** Posteroanterior (PA) cephalometric analysis. Left, PA cephalometric landmarks: Lo, bilateral intersection of the oblique orbital line with the lateral contour of the right and left side orbits; Nc, neck of crista galli; ANS, anterior nasal spine; Me, menton; J, jugal process of the maxilla at a crossing with the tuberosity of the maxilla; Ag, the highest point in the antegonial notch; U1, mesial contact point of upper central incisors at the level of gingival crest; L1, mesial contact point of the upper first molar; L6, the buccal-most point on the crown of the lower first molar. Middle, PA linear measurements: ANS-Mid, horizontal distance from vertical reference line to U1; L1-Mid, horizontal distance from vertical reference line to L; Men-Mid, horizontal distance from vertical reference line to menton. Right, PA angular measurements: FMxP, frontal maxillary plane angle; FOP, frontal occlusal plane angle; FMdP, frontal mandibular plane angle.

able 1. Distribution of Subjects								
	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Total			
Gender								
Male	15	5	10	7	37			
Female	24	5	15	16	60			
Total	39	10	25	23	97			
Age, y⊳	$22.2\pm2.9$	$20.8\pm4.1$	$22.8\pm4.5$	$21.6\pm2.5$	$22.1\pm3.5$			

Toble 1 Distribution of Subjects

<sup>a</sup> Group 1, normal disk position in both TMJs; Group 2, disk displacement with reduction in both TMJs or without reduction in both TMJs; Group 3, the TMJ internal derangement (ID) was more advanced on the right side (ie, when the left TMJ was normal and right TMJ showed disk displacement with reduction [DDR] or DD without reduction [DDNR] or when the left TMJ was DDR and the right TMJ showed DDNR); Group 4, the TMJ ID was more advanced on the left side (ie, when the right condyle was normal and the left condyle showed DDR or DDNR or when the right condyle was DDR and left condyle showed DDNR).

<sup>b</sup> Values indicate mean ± standard deviation.

changes.<sup>28</sup> An irregularly shaped right or left joint can also easily cause a problem.29 This was proven in a previous study<sup>18</sup> using finite element analysis. Therefore, facial asymmetry associated with TMJ DD may be due to osseous changes in the condylar head by TMJ DD. Previous studies<sup>30,31</sup> have reported bony changes on the articular surface of the mandibular condyle in patients with TMJ DD, specifically a decreased condylar height with a distally inclined condylar head. The changes in the shape and size of the mandibular condyle may induce mandibular shortening of the DD side, namely mandibular asymmetry and facial asymmetry.

In this study, the manifest site and degree of TMJ DD correlated more with facial asymmetry in the mandible than in the maxilla. The variables evaluating the maxillary asymmetry did not demonstrate a significant difference between the groups. This may indicate that the basic cause for asymmetry in skeletal Class III malocclusions lies in the mandible (Table 5). Class III often reoccurs after Class III surgery. The reoccurrence might be related to the fact that Class III malocclusion may sometimes represent progressive condylar hyperplasias, some bilateral and some unilateral or DD on one side, possibly affecting growth, and sometimes bilateral.

In the mandible, the deviation of mandibular menton and the frontal mandibular plane angle showed clear

Table 2. Cross-Table of Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Results<sup>a</sup>

8 8 7 9						
	L	Left TMJ MRI				
	Normal	DDR	DDNR	Total		
Right TMJ MRI						
Normal, n (%) DDR, n (%) DDNR, n (%)	39 (40.2) 15 (15.5) 6 (6.2)	17 (17.5) 9 (9.3) 4 (4.1)	3 (3.1) 3 (3.1) 1 (1.0)	59 (60.8) 27 (27.9) 11 (11.3)		
Total	60 (61.9)	30 (30.9)	7 (7.2)	97 (100)		

<sup>a</sup> Normal indicates normal TMJ disk position; DDR, disk displacement with reduction; and DDNR, DD without reduction. Fisher Exact test for count data indicated no significant difference in the prevalence between the MRI findings.

differences between the groups. In the group showing normal or identical conditions of DD in both TMJs (groups 1 and 2), the asymmetry of the mandible was not significant. However, when one of the TMJs with DD, either right or left, was more advanced on one side than on the other side, the mandible was shifted toward the side with greater DD. This indicates that TMJ DD showed laterality, and its direction was in accordance with the side with the shifted midline. The mandible has a positive or negative sign indicating the direction of the deviation. Calculating the average midline displacement can offset this sign. Therefore, if the direction of the deviation ( $\pm$  sign from Table 5) is not considered when calculating the real displacement, a significant difference in the horizontal deviation of the midline of the lower incisors, menton, and the frontal mandibular plane angle is also observed. This calculation demonstrated that the side with the more advanced TMJ DD was also the shifted side of the mandible.

In a previous study<sup>32</sup> of skeletal Class I and II malocclusion patients, the research on lateral cephalograms demonstrated significant differences in terms of facial height ratio, ramus height, and position of the mandible between a normal group and a group having bilateral DD. However, our study did not show a significant difference. It is possible that the relation between TMJ DD and skeletal morphology is influenced in different ways by differences in skeletal pattern. For example, in the skeletal Class II malocclusion, TMJ DD mainly influences the TMJ bilaterally, resulting in mandibular clockwise rotation, an anterior open bite, and a large overjet.<sup>32</sup> On the other hand, in the cases of patients with skeletal Class III malocclusion and facial asymmetry, the TMJ on the shifted side of the mandible entailed an extreme prevalence of DD.

According to the degree of mandibular asymmetry and the relative risk of groups 3 and 4 over groups 1 and 2 (Table 6), patients who demonstrated more than 3 mm or 3° of asymmetry had a greater probability of having different levels of TMJ DD on each side. On the

	Normal	DDR	DDNR	Total
Asymptomatic TMJ, No. (%)	39 (32.8)	21 (36.8)	8 (44.4)	68 (35)
Symptomatic TMJ, No. (%)	80 (67.2)	36 (63.2)	10 (55.6)	126 (65)
TMJ sounds only, No. (%)	32 (40.0)	17 (47.2)	5 (50.0)	
TMJ pain only, No. (%)	10 (12.5)	5 (13.9)	0 (0.0)	
Both pain and sounds, No. (%)	19 (23.8)	9 (25.0)	3 (30.0)	
Locking, No. (%)	8 (10.0)	5 (13.9)	1 (10.0)	

Table 3. Distribution of Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Symptoms and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Findings<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Fisher exact test indicated no significant difference in the prevalence of symptomatic TMJs between the MRI findings.

contrary, patients with relatively little asymmetry fell into the normal TMJ group or the bilateral TMJ DD group. Therefore, the results of this study indicate that if either the left or right TMJ has greater DD than the opposite side, the mandibular displacement will be seen on the more advanced side. If both TMJs are normal or have the same amount of DD, the facial asymmetry is not outstanding.

It is necessary to discriminate the latent TMJ DD patients during the orthodontic diagnosis and to make them aware of their preexisting condition before initiating treatment. In reality, TMJ DD may be less related to unwanted signs and symptoms than has been previously postulated.<sup>17,27,33</sup> According to the results of this study's skeletal Class III mandibular asymmetrical patients, we can infer that both the frontal mandibular plane angle (which indicates the horizontal asymmetry of the mandible) and the horizontal deviation of the lower incisor (measured from the vertical reference line) indicate the possibility of advanced TMJ DD on the side of mandibular displacement. Another possibility is that both joints may have DD to the same degree when the mandibular asymmetry is not prominent.

#### Table 4. Comparison of Lateral Cephalometric Variables<sup>a</sup>

Variables	Group 1 (n = 39)	Group 2 (n = 10)	Group 3 (n = 25)	Group 4 (n = 23)	Signifi- cance	Multiple Comparison
Cranial base relationships						
Anterior cranial base length, mm	69.7 ± 3.3	$70.6 \pm 3.5$	69.4 ± 4.6	69.0 ± 3.6	NS	
Posterior cranial base length, mm	37.0 ± 4.1	37.0 ± 4.0	36.8 ± 4.7	37.2 ± 4.4	NS	
Maxillomandibular relationships						
SNA angle, °	81.2 ± 3.8	81.5 ± 4.4	80.3 ± 4.1	80.5 ± 4.7	NS	
SNB angle, °	84.7 ± 4.6	83.1 ± 3.4	83.1 ± 5.2	82.4 ± 4.8	NS	
Pog to N perpendicular, mm	8.2 ± 8.2	$3.0\pm8.6$	$5.3\pm8.8$	$3.6 \pm 8.3$	NS	
ANB angle, °	$-3.5 \pm 2.7$	$-1.6 \pm 2.7$	$-2.9 \pm 3.5$	$-2.0 \pm 3.2$	NS	
Wits appraisal, mm	$11.8\pm6.0$	$-9.3\pm5.0$	$-14.2 \pm 10.6$	$-10.6\pm4.4$	NS	
Vertical skeletal relationship						
Gonial angle, $^{\circ}$	124.5 ± 7.8	127.6 ± 5.4	$147.5 \pm 6.5$	147.2 ± 6.9	NS	
FMA, °	$25.3\pm6.5$	$28.6\pm3.7$	$28.8\pm6.4$	$29.1~\pm~4.9$	*	NS
SN to mandibular plane angle, $^\circ$	$33.8\pm7.2$	$37.5 \pm 4.3$	$37.6 \pm 8.1$	$37.9 \pm 5.7$	NS	
FH to palatal plane angle, °	$0.9\pm3.4$	$1.3\pm3.9$	$0.8\pm3.2$	$0.3\pm2.7$	NS	
Anterior facial height (N-Me), mm	$136\pm8.5$	$139.3\pm7.8$	$137.2 \pm 7.9$	$136.5 \pm 7.7$	NS	
Posterior facial height (S-Go), mm	$90.9\pm9.7$	$89.3\pm4.9$	$87.1~\pm~7.8$	$86.2 \pm 8.2$	NS	
Facial height ratio, %	$66.6\pm6.0$	$64.2\pm3.6$	$63.5\pm5.6$	$60.3\pm13.7$	*	NS
Size and form of mandible						
Ramus height (Ar-Go), mm	58.1 ± 7.0	$56.4~\pm~3.6$	$54.0\pm5.6$	$55.4 \pm 9.6$	NS	
Mandibular body length (Go-Me), mm Go-Me to SN ratio (body length to	$84.2\pm5.8$	81.9 ± 7.2	$84.0\pm6.5$	$80.0\pm10.0$	NS	
cranial base)	$1.2 \pm 0.1$	$1.2 \pm 0.1$	$1.2 \pm 0.1$	$1.2 \pm 0.1$	NS	
Articular angle, °	$145.6\pm5.9$	$146.0\pm8.8$	$147.5\pm6.7$	$147.2\pm6.8$	NS	
Dental relationships						
Overbite, mm	$0.6\pm2.0$	$0.0\pm2.3$	$0.6 \pm 1.8$	$-0.1 \pm 1.4$	NS	
Overjet, mm	$-1.8 \pm 2.5$	$-1.7 \pm 2.5$	$-1.4 \pm 3.2$	$-0.9$ $\pm$ 1.5	NS	
Mandibular incisor to FH plane, $^{\circ}$	$72.0\pm7.3$	$64.1~\pm~6.6$	$70.2\pm9.1$	$67.6\pm8.3$	*	NS

<sup>a</sup> NS indicates not significant; \* P < .05 at analysis of variance (ANOVA).

<sup>b</sup> Scheffè multiple comparisons to find the intergroups difference at the level of  $\alpha = .05$ .

						Multiple
Variables	Group 1 (n = 39)	Group 2 (n = 10)	Group 3 (n = 25)	Group 4 (n = 23)	Significance	Comparison <sup>₅</sup>
Linear measurements	3					
ANS-Mid, mm	$-0.5 \pm 1.4$	$0.6 \pm 1.0$	$-0.2 \pm 1.6$	$-0.2 \pm 1.5$	NS	
U1-Mi, mm	$-0.3\pm2.2$	$1.2 \pm 2.2$	$-0.4$ $\pm$ 2.5	$0.6 \pm 2.5$	NS	
L1-Mid, mm	$0.1\pm3.2$	$1.0\pm3.2$	$-3.6\pm3.0$	$3.8\pm5.5$	*	(3) < (1,2) < (2,4)
Men-Mid, mm	$-0.4\pm4.3$	$0.9\pm4.7$	$-8.0\pm4.0$	$5.9\pm7.7$	*	(3) < (1,2) < (4)
Angular measuremen	t					
FMxP, °	0.7 ± 1.9	$-0.8 \pm 1.4$	$-1.6 \pm 1.5$	$-0.4 \pm 2.0$	*	(3,2,4) < (2,4,1)
FOP, <sup>o</sup>	0.6 ± 2.1	$0.5 \pm 2.4$	$-1.9 \pm 2.0$	$0.9 \pm 2.3$	*	(3) < (2,1,4)
FMdP, $^{\circ}$	$-0.2$ $\pm$ 1.9	$0.2\pm1.3$	$-3.2\pm2.2$	$2.3\pm2.6$	*	(3) < (1,2) < (4)
Linear measurements	s, absolute value					
ANS-Mid, mm	1.1 ± 1.0	$0.8\pm0.8$	1.1 ± 1.2	$1.2 \pm 0.9$	NS	
U1-Mid, mm	$1.7 \pm 1.4$	$2.0\pm1.3$	$1.7 \pm 1.9$	2.1 ± 1.5	NS	
L1-Mid, mm	$2.6\pm1.9$	$2.3\pm2.3$	$4.0\pm2.4$	$5.7~\pm~3.3$	*	(1,2,3) < (3,4)
Men-Mid, mm	$3.5\pm2.5$	$4.1\pm2.2$	$8.0\pm4.0$	$8.3\pm4.8$	*	(1,2) < (3,4)
Angular measuremen	t, absolute value					
FMxP, °	$1.6 \pm 1.3$	$1.2 \pm 1.0$	1.8 ± 1.3	1.6 ± 1.2	NS	
FOP, °	$1.5 \pm 1.6$	1.7 ± 1.7	$2.3\pm1.6$	2.1 ± 1.4	NS	
FMdP, °	$1.5\pm1.1$	$1.0\pm0.8$	$3.2\pm2.2$	$2.9\pm1.9$	*	(2,1) < (1,4) < (4,3)

Table 5. Comparison of Posteroanterior (PA) Cephalometric Variables of Subjects<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> NS indicates not significant. \* *P* < .001 at analysis of variance (ANOVA).

<sup>b</sup> Scheffè multiple comparisons to find the intergroups difference at the level of  $\alpha = .05$ .

## CONCLUSIONS

- When the TMJ DD is more advanced on one side, the mandible usually deviates to the advanced side.
- When the TMJ DD is bilaterally equal or bilaterally normal, the amount of mandibular deviation is not significant. Therefore, if a skeletal Class III patient has an asymmetric face, especially in the mandibular region, careful examination might be necessary regarding the status of the TMJ during orthodontic diagnosis and treatment planning.

#### Table 6. Relative Risk Ratios

	Groups 1 and 2 (%)	Groups 3 and 4 (%)	Total (%)	Relative Risk	95% Confidence Interval
Men-Mid					
<3 mm ≥3 mm Total	28 (28.9) 21 (21.6) 49 (50.5)	11 (11.3) 37 (38.1) 48 (49.5)	39 (40.2) 58 (59.8) 97 (100)	2.26	1.32–3.87
L1-Mid					
<2 mm ≥2 mm Total	29 (29.9) 20 (20.6) 49 (50.5)	14 (14.4) 34 (35.1) 48 (49.5)	54 (55.7) 43 (44.3) 97 (100)	1.93	1.20–3.11
FMdP					
<3° ≥3° Total	44 (45.4) 5 (5.20) 49 (50.5)	25 (25.8) 23 (23.7) 48 (49.5)	69 (71.1) 28 (28.9) 97 (100)	2.27	1.59–3.24

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