

Instructions for Completing the New Jersey Orthodontic Evaluation HLD (NJ-Mod2) Index Form

The intent of the HLD (NJ-Mod2) Index is to measure the presence or absence and the degree of the handicap caused by the components to be scored with the index and NOT to diagnose “malocclusion”. Presence of conditions 1 through 6A or a score total equal to or greater than 26 qualifies for medical necessity exception.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- **Only cases with permanent dentition will be considered (see comprehensive orthodontics for exception).**
- A Boley Gauge or disposable ruler scaled in millimeters should be used;
- The patient’s teeth are positioned in centric occlusion;
- All measurements are recorded and rounded off to the nearest millimeter (mm);
- For sections 1 to 6A and 15 an X is placed if the condition exists and no further scoring is needed;
- For sections 6B to 14, indicate the measurement or if a condition is absent, a 0 is entered;
- The use of an assistant to record the findings is recommended;
- **Diagnostic models are required** with submission of prior authorization. Casts must be properly poured, adequately trimmed without voids or bubbles and marked for centric occlusion, or
- **Diagnostic Digital models may be submitted** to show right and left lateral, frontal and posterior and maxillary and mandibular occlusal views;
- **Diagnostic quality photographs** to show facial, frontal and profile, intra-oral front, left and right side, maxillary and mandibular occlusal views (minimum of seven views).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORM COMPLETION:

- 1. Cleft Palate Deformity** – acceptable documentation must include at least one of the following: intraoral photographs of the palate, written consultation report by a qualified specialist or craniofacial panel. Score an X if present.
- 2. Cranio-facial Anomaly** – acceptable documentation must include written report by qualified specialist or craniofacial panel and photographs. Score an X if present.
- 3. Impacted Permanent Anterior Teeth** – demonstrate that anterior tooth or teeth (incisors and cuspids) is or are impacted (soft or hard tissue); not indicated for extraction and treatment planned to be brought into occlusion. Arch space available for correction. Score an X if present.
- 4. Crossbite of Individual Anterior teeth** – Score an X if present.
- 5. Severe Traumatic Deviation** – damage to skeletal and or soft tissue as a result of trauma or other gross pathology. Include written report and intraoral photographs. Score an X if present.

6A. Overjet greater than 9mm or mandibular protrusion (reverse overjet) greater than 3.5 – Overjet is recorded with the patient's teeth in centric occlusion and is measured from the labial of the lower incisors to the labial of the corresponding upper central incisors. This measurement should record the greatest distance between any one upper central incisor and its corresponding lower central or lateral incisor. If the overjet is greater than 9mm or mandibular protrusion (reverse overjet) is greater than 3.5mm, score an X if present.

6B. Overjet equal to or less than 9mm – overjet is recorded as in condition in 6A. The measurement is rounded to the nearest millimeter and entered on the score form.

7. Overbite – A pencil mark on the tooth indicating the extent of the overlap facilitates the measurement. It is measured and rounded off the nearest millimeter and entered on the score form. "Reverse" overbite may exist and should be measured and entered on score form.

8. Mandibular protrusion (reverse overjet) equal to or less than 3.5 mm – Mandibular protrusion (reverse overjet) is recorded as a condition in 6A and rounded to the nearest millimeter. Enter the score on the form and multiply it by five (5).

9. Open Bite in millimeters – This condition is defined as the absence of occlusal contact in the anterior region. It is measured from the incisal edge of a maxillary central incisor to the incisal edge of a corresponding mandibular incisor, in millimeters. Enter the measurement on the score form and multiply by four (4). If case is such that measurement is not possible, measurement can usually be estimated.

10. Ectopic Eruption – Count each tooth, excluding third molars. Each qualifying tooth must be more than 50% blocked out of the arch. Enter the number of qualifying teeth on the score form and multiply by three (3). If anterior crowding (see condition #11) also exists in the same arch, score the condition that scores the most points. **DO NOT COUNT BOTH CONDITIONS.** However, posterior ectopic teeth can still be counted separately from anterior crowding when they occur in the same arch.

11. Deep Impinging Overbite – destruction of soft tissue on palate is present. Submit intraoral photographs of tissue damage/impingment. The presence of deep impinging overbite is indicated by a score of three (3) on the score form.

12. Anterior Crowding – Arch length insufficiency must exceed 3.5 mm. Mild rotations are not to be scored as crowded. Score one (1) for a crowded maxillary arch and/or one for a crowded mandibular arch. Enter the total on score form and multiply by five (5). If ectopic eruption exists in the anterior region of the same arch, count the condition that scores the most points. **DO NOT COUNT BOTH CONDITIONS.** However, posterior ectopic teeth can still be counted separately from anterior crowding when they occur in the same arch.

13. Labio-Lingual Spread – A Boley Gauge (or disposable ruler) is used to determine the extent of deviation from a normal arch. Where there is only a protruded or lingually displaced anterior tooth, the measurement should be made from the incisal edge of that tooth to the normal arch line. Otherwise, the total distance between the most protruded anterior tooth and the most lingually displaced adjacent anterior tooth is measured. In the event that multiple anterior crowding of teeth is observed, all deviations from the normal arch should be measured for the labio-lingual spread, but only the most severe individual measurement should be entered on the score form.

14. Posterior Unilateral Crossbite – This condition involves two or more adjacent teeth, one of which must be a molar. The crossbite must be one in which the maxillary posterior teeth involved may either be both palatal or both completely buccal in relation to the mandibular posterior teeth. The presence of posterior unilateral crossbite is indicated by a score of four (4) on the score form. **NO ADDITIONAL SCORE FOR BILATERAL CROSSBITE.**

15. Psychological factors affecting child's development – This condition requires detailed documentation by a **mental health provider** as described in the managed care contract that contains the psychological or psychiatric diagnosis, treatment history and prognosis. An attestation from the mental health provider must state and substantiate that orthodontic correction will result in a favorable prognosis of the mental/psychological condition.

