OPEN BITE CASES TREAT MOST PREDICTABLY WHEN:

1. The open bite results from dental issues, not skeletal issues; dental open bites can be corrected orthodontically with good results, but skeletal open bites often require surgery.

2. The anterior teeth are flared and have spaces

3. The upper arch is narrow with lingually tipped posterior teeth that can be expanded

GENERAL TREATMENT PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Habits

Habits such as thumb sucking or tongue thrust can cause open bite. While addressing the habit is very important—especially for long term stability—it is very difficult to alleviate a habit when the function is impaired. Closing the open bite and restoring anterior tooth contacts will make it much easier for the patient to correct the habit.

Relative extrusion

A dental open bite with flared anterior teeth can be corrected or improved with relative extrusion via the retroclination (lingual crown tipping) of the anterior teeth. If there isn’t sufficient space to fully correct the axial inclination of the anterior teeth, additional space can be created via anterior IPR.

Pure extrusion

When relative extrusion via retroclination is not enough, pure extrusion of the anterior teeth can be attempted. Some doctors do not utilize pure anterior extrusion because they feel this strategy has a greater likelihood of relapse.
INVISALIGN SPECIFICS

Attachments

For relative anterior extrusion, no attachments will be applied.

For pure anterior extrusion, Optimized Extrusion Attachments will be placed on the teeth that need to be extruded. These attachments will be placed automatically by the software when needed.

Movement staging

Open bite correction via relative or pure extrusion will be staged simultaneously with all other movements needed to achieve alignment of the teeth.

Vertical jump

Additionally, posterior intrusion created by the Invisalign aligners will further help correct the open bite by allowing the mandible to auto-rotate forward and upward. This may be requested via the Prescription form and will be represented in the ClinCheck® treatment plan with a vertical simulation or jump.

The vertical jump simulates the autorotation of the mandible

For more information and treatment planning help

Learn more from your peers who are successfully treating patients with open bite and researching the long-term relapse rates of open bites treated with Invisalign compared to fixed appliances:
https://learn.invisalign.com/openbite#tips