Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) dysfunction, where the joint and muscles are not working as they should, can be caused by the clenching of the jaw and grinding of teeth. Other causes include:

- injury to the jaw
- arthritis in the joint
- stress (which, in turn, may result in tightening of facial muscles and clenching of the jaw)

At S4S, we have highly skilled technicians that will create your models and build a pivot on the first molar region to restore the patient’s ‘Shimbashi’ measurement to a value that is more normal.

Construction requirements

- Upper and lower impressions (alginate is suitable)
- An Intercuspal Bite Registration (ICP) with teeth in maximum contact

This appliance has become more popular thanks to Dr Chris Stevens, a leader in the development of craniomandibular dental techniques based in the USA.

Rationale

- Decompress the mandible
- Proprioceptive Deprogramming
- Differential condylar support
- Vertical dimension correction
- Combination appliance