The main cause of oral and facial trauma in the UAE is road traffic accidents. Contrary to many parts of the world where the incidence of injury from road traffic accidents has decreased, statistics show that road traffic accidents are still the main cause of facial trauma. While seat belt use is increasingly prevalent in the UAE, the increase in facial trauma caused by road accidents may be attributed to the size of the car or the speed of the vehicles.

Incidentally, recent improvement in initial resuscitation procedures at the accident site has resulted in more trauma victims being rescued and brought to the hospital for treatment rather than perishing in the accident. Oral and facial trauma, as well as updates in maxillofacial reconstruction, oral cancer, microneurosurgery, facial cosmetic and orthognathic surgery will be reviewed at the 2nd Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Congress to be held at the Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi hotel in Dubai from 1 - 5 May 2011. Organised by Imedex in association with Arab Health, this year’s meeting will provide a number of new features that explore the rapidly reshaping field of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

“A unique type of facial trauma is fall from heights” says Dr Khaled Ghandour, Head of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department, Dubai Health Authority and speaker at the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Congress to be held at the Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi hotel in Dubai from 1 - 5 May 2011. Organised by Imedex in association with Arab Health, this year’s meeting will provide a number of new features that explore the rapidly reshaping field of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

“Treatment for facial trauma in the UAE is very advanced and with the high number of surgery cases treated annually, UAE is one of the leading treatment centres in the world,” Dr Ghandour explains.

“Dubai’s Rashid Hospital, which is one of four specialist trauma treatment centres in the UAE, will treat up to 400 facial trauma patients a year requiring surgery or less invasive emergency treatment.”

Other conditions requiring oral and maxillofacial surgery are congenital and birth deformities such as a cleft palate or cleft lip. This requires secondary and tertiary surgery and many years of intensive treatment to correct the condition. Tumors and oral facial pathology also make up a number of oral surgery cases in the UAE.

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