Acromegaly is a hormonal disorder that results from too much growth hormone in the body. Symptoms dentists might spot: changes in oral cavity, enlarged lips, nose and tongue, changes to jaw and gaps between teeth.

It can take up to 10 years for patients to be diagnosed with acromegaly, and it can damage the internal organs if left untreated this long. If a dentist can diagnose acromegaly in its earlier stages, it can result in significant improvements to quality of life later.

If you suspect one of your patients has acromegaly suggest they ask their GP for their growth hormone and IGF-1 levels to be checked, and ask for a referral to an endocrinologist.