

Cephalometric Head Position

Two-dimensional

1. Lift the patient's head at the base of the skull to encourage correct **posture**. No slouching.
2. Then, **position** ear rods *securely* into the ear canals, porion. Secure position of the ear rods will reduce patient movement and overlapping of the right and left facial sides.

Porion is the point on the skull located at the upper margin of each ear canal (external auditory meatus, external acoustic meatus). An adult canal is nearly 1 inch in length and is lined with skin that extends to cover the tympanic membrane, eardrum.

3. Now, rotate the head using the ear rods as an axis to achieve correct Frankfort **horizontal plane** head position.



Frankfort horizontal plane

Porion to Orbitale

Porion – superior external margin of the auditory meatus

Orbitale – inferior border of the bony orbit

4. Position **nose piece** on soft tissue Nasion.



Nasion – soft tissue profile's most concave point on the bridge of the nose

5. Confirm **occlusion**.
6. Confirm **lip position**. Relaxed position. Do NOT strain lips over teeth.

Lip incompetence is an *inability* to maintain a lips together, closed mouth posture at rest and showing *strain* in the muscles around the face when a lip seal is attempted.