

Maxillary Supernumerary Premolars – A Rare Case Report

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ABSTRACT

Background: Supernumerary tooth (ST) is a developmental anomaly and has been argued to arise from multiple etiologies. These teeth may remain embedded in the alveolar bone or can erupt into the oral cavity. When it remains embedded, it may cause disturbance to the developing teeth. Hyperdontia is the condition of having supernumerary teeth, or teeth that appear in addition to the regular number of teeth. The prevalence of supernumerary teeth varies between 0.1 and 3.8% and is more common in the permanent dentition. These are more common in the mandible than in the maxilla. Presented here is a rare case of patient who was diagnosed with supernumerary premolar in both quadrants of maxilla discovered on routine radiographic examination.

Keywords: Supernumerary teeth, Premolar, Maxilla.

INTRODUCTION

Supernumerary teeth are teeth in excess of the number found in the normal series¹. Supernumerary teeth that closely resemble the adjacent teeth are classified as supplemental. On the other hand, if they present abnormal shape and size, they are termed rudimentary². The most common supernumerary teeth listed in order of frequency are the: Maxillary midline supernumeraries, maxillary fourth molars, maxillary paramolars (rudimentary supernumeraries that develop buccally or lingually to the maxillary molars), mandibular premolars, maxillary lateral incisors, mandibular fourth molars, maxillary premolars³.

Supernumerary premolars occur more frequently in the mandible than in the maxilla and the majority are of the supplemental type³. The site of these teeth has been reported as usually lingual to, or occasionally vertically below, the normal premolar teeth⁴.

CASE REPORT

An 11 year old female child reported to the clinic with the complaint of decayed teeth with pain in mandibular left and right back tooth region. On intra oral examination, there was unerupted tooth with no space for the tooth to erupt in the upper left back tooth region. Her medical and family history was non-contributory. Intra oral peri apical radiographs (IOPA) were advised in relation to 25, 26 along with 36 and 46. IOPA radiograph of 25, 26 region revealed presence of a supernumerary premolar (Figure 1). IOPA radiograph of 36 and 46 showed periapical radiolucency indicating the necessity of root canal treatment. A routine IOPA radiograph was advised for 15, 16 region which also revealed the presence of supernumerary premolar between 15 and 16 (Figure 2).

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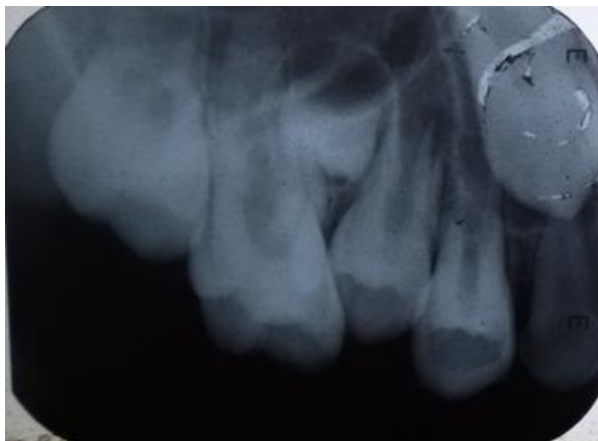


Fig 1: Periapical radiograph of tooth 25 showing the presence of a supernumerary premolar.

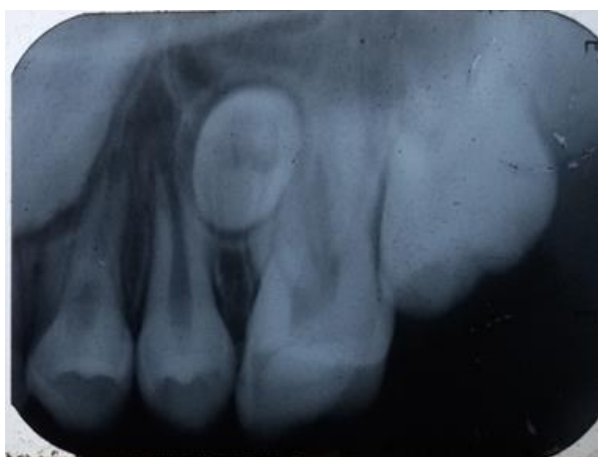


Fig 2: Periapical radiograph of tooth 15 showing the presence of a supernumerary premolar.

DISCUSSION

The literature indicates that maxillary supernumerary premolars are very rare, mandibular supernumerary premolars are usually common.

Supernumerary teeth in most of the cases are asymptomatic and erupt normally. The presence of supernumerary teeth may produce following problems².

- a. Malocclusion due to disturbance in path of eruption by reducing arch circumference.
- b. Prevent eruption of developing teeth.
- c. External root resorption of the adjacent teeth due to pressure from erupting supernumerary teeth.
- d. A deviated path of eruption may show supernumerary teeth erupting in abnormal locations like nasal cavity, orbit, inferior border of

mandible etc. and sometimes weakening the bone to form a more prone site for fracture.

e. An untreated supernumerary tooth may get transformed into a cyst especially a dentigerous cyst.

f. The supernumerary teeth may get fused with the normal teeth thus affecting normal morphology of the involved teeth^{5,6}.

Early diagnosis followed by prompt quick treatment will definitely help in preventing all the complications stated above⁷.

CONCLUSION

Any complaint of unerupted teeth or delayed eruption of teeth should mandate for a routine periapical radiograph to evaluate presence of supernumerary teeth or odontomas, so that a prompt treatment can be initiated and prevent complications arising from them.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

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