

# Multidisciplinary Treatment Approach of A Rare Case of Familial Non Syndromic Oligodontia - A Case Report

Dr. Indrani Das

Department of Prosthodontics , Regional Dental College,Guwahati,Assam

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## Introduction

Agnesis of teeth is one of the most common of human developmental anomalies. Oligodontia is the congenital agnesis of 6 or more permanent teeth, excluding third molars. Oligodontia has been classified as isolated, familial or nonsyndromic (which is more common) and syndromic hypodontia (as ectodermal dysplasia, Rieger's syndrome, Witkop syndrome, orofacial-digital syndrome, or incontinentia pigmenti). All mutations of PAX9 identified to date have been associated with nonsyndromic form of tooth agnesis. Tooth agnesis (MIM# 106600), the congenital absence of one or more permanent teeth, is a common human anomaly (Pemberton, et al.<sup>1</sup>, 2005). In most populations, the reported prevalence of permanent tooth agnesis, excluding third molars, varies from 2.2-10.1% (Polder, et al.<sup>2</sup>, 2004). In the majority of cases, persons are missing only one tooth (Daugaard-Jensen, et al.<sup>3</sup>, 1997). The prevalence becomes progressively smaller as the number of missing teeth increases. Agnesis of more than two teeth occurs in approximately 1% of the population (Polder, et al.<sup>2</sup>, 2004). Oligodontia (MIM# 604625) is a rare anomaly, affecting approximately 0.1 to 0.3 % of the population (Polder et al.<sup>2</sup>, 2004). Non-syndromic tooth agnesis has wide phenotypic heterogeneity and is classified as either sporadic or familial, which can be inherited in an autosomal-dominant, autosomal-recessive or X-linked mode (Burzynski and Escobar<sup>4</sup>,1983). Dominant mutations in MSX1 (MIM# 142983), PAX9 (MIM# 167416), and AXIN2 (MIM# 604025) have been found in families with non-syndromic tooth agnesis ( ; Stockton et al., 2000, Lammi et al.<sup>5</sup>, 2004) . However, mutations in these genes were detected in only a few affected individuals, suggesting that there may be other unidentified genetic defects responsible for this disease

## Abstract

Oligodontia is the congenital agnesis of 6 or more permanent teeth, excluding third molars. The prevalence of oligodontia has been reported as 0.3% and affects females more often than males, with a gender ratio of 3:2. Although oligodontia can occur over with 60 different syndromes, these anomalies can occur without any syndrome or systemic disease. All mutations of PAX9 identified to date have been associated with nonsyndromic form. This case report describes a multidisciplinary treatment approach toward a female patient 16 years of age presenting with familial nonsyndromic oligodontia having paternal family trait and absence of 28 permanent teeth. The treatment plan considered for the patient included extraction of deciduous teeth with resorbed roots and poor prognosis. Remaining deciduous teeth which were affected by secondary caries were restored by endodontic therapy. Finally rehabilitation was done by removable partial denture for maxillary arch and overdenture for mandibular arch. It is emphasized that conventional prosthetic treatment can lead to a satisfactory result.

**Keywords:** Oligodontia, Overdenture, Deciduous teeth, Agnesis

(Scarel et al.<sup>6</sup>, 2000; Frazier-Bowers et al.<sup>7</sup>, 2002). The purpose of this article is to report a multidisciplinary treatment approach toward a 16 year old female patient with a rare case of congenitally missing permanent teeth.

Pre-treatment evaluation of the patient:

1) Extra-oral examination of the patient revealed facial asymmetry and decrease in lower facial height and flat profile [Fig 1]. The nasolabial angle was within normal limits, the lower lip full and slightly protruded relative to the upper lip at closure, a deep mentolabial sulcus was present and increased activity of the mentalis muscle was visible in the skin overlying the chin upon lip closure.



Fig 1 Extraoral view

2) Intra-oral examination revealed that all permanent teeth were missing since childhood and not due to extraction. Teeth present in maxilla were deciduous 45,46,55,56,53, and root stumps of 42,51,52. Teeth present in mandible were 73, 74,81,82,83 [Fig 2(a&b)]



Fig 2 (a&b) Intraoral view

Radiographic examination revealed all teeth in various stages of caries and root resorption. Orthopantomogram showed missing permanent maxillary and mandibular teeth. [Fig 3(a)]



Fig 3 (a) OPG Fig 3



(b) Study Casts

**Genetic counseling**

The patient is the second child of 2 from a non-consanguineous marriage. Patient's father and grandfather had oligodontia. The patient's neuromotor development appeared normal and there was no specific finding on physical examination to suggest any syndrome. Ophthalmic examination and skeletal X-ray indicated normal findings.

Case pedigree analysis revealed presence of oligodontia in previous generations and absence of oligodontia in sibling suggests X-linked dominant inheritance.

Complete set of investigations were done which included routine examination of blood including serum calcium, alkaline phosphate, TSH, T3, T4, findings of which were normal. During physical examination, hairs were not thin and sparse, nails were not brittle and no difficulty in perspiration was seen which ruled out ectodermal dysplasia; on ocular examination, no signs of glaucoma was seen ruling out Rieger syndrome and lastly Van Der Woude syndrome was left out as there was no cleft palate or any mucosal cysts in lower lip. Hand wrist radiographic examination was normal. Finally based on above findings Non syndromic Oligodontia as final diagnosis was justified.

The treatment plan considered for the patient was divided into four phases:

- PHASE I Oral surgical
- PHASE II Periodontic
- PHASE III Endodontic phase
- PHASE IV Prosthetic rehabilitation

**Phase I-Oral surgical:**

This phase included extraction of deciduous teeth with resorbed roots and poor prognosis. [Fig 4 (a&b)]



Fig 4 (a&b) Extraction of teeth with poor prognosis  
Phase II - Periodontic [Fig 5(a&b)] Frenectomy was performed in relation to maxillary labial frenum to correct high frenal attachment.



Fig 5 (a&b) Frenectomy performed in relation to maxillary labial frenum

**Phase II-Endodontic phase:**

After healing of extraction sites, remaining deciduous teeth which were affected by secondary caries were restored by endodontic therapy. An endodontically treated maxillary left 2<sup>nd</sup> molar tooth had surgical crown lengthening on the palatal side due to insufficient crown height. [Fig 6 (a&b)]



Fig 6 (a&b) Endodontic treatment of carious affected teeth

**Phase IV—Prosthetic phase:**

After 3 weeks of gingival healing maxillary right canine, and molars were prepared to receive crowns, and mandibular canines were prepared to receive overdenture copings and serve as overdenture abutments [Fig 7 (a&b)]. Finally removable partial denture for maxillary arch and overdenture for mandibular arch was being considered for aesthetic and functional rehabilitation of the patient.



Fig 7 (a&b) Tooth preparation of maxillary and mandibular teeth

Porcelain fused to metal restorations were fabricated for maxillary teeth and cast metal copings were fabricated for mandibular teeth and cemented using Glass ionomer cement (type I) [Fig 8 (a&b)]



Fig 8 (a&b) Cementation of crowns to maxillary teeth and cast metal copings on mandibular overdenture abutments

Maxillary impression was made by dual impression technique. Border moulding was done using a single step putty technique and final impression was taken with PVS (light body consistency-aquasil) [Fig 9 (a&b)].



Fig 9 (a&b) Final impressions



For mandibular arch border moulding and final impression were done. The impressions were poured using Type II dental stone. Routine procedures were followed for construction of prostheses [Fig 10 (a)]. Processed dentures were finished, polished and post insertion instructions were given to the patient and attendants [Fig 10 (b)]. The patient reported that her self-esteem and quality of life have improved.



Fig 10 (a&b) Try in and Post insertion view

**Discussion**

Factors which play a significant role in selecting and planning treatment of oligodontia are:

- Patient age
- number and condition of present teeth,
- number of missing teeth, presence of carious teeth,
- condition of supporting tissues,
- occlusion and inter-occlusal rest space

In the present patient, the persistent deciduous teeth were retained by endodontic therapy to take advantage of their prevention of ridge resorption, In the present case, for biomechanical purposes, the canines in mandibular arch had to be used as abutment teeth under overdenture. Management of oligodontia patients with dental implants is difficult, because the congenital absence of teeth can result in lack of sufficient alveolar ridge for successful implant placement. Nevertheless, oral rehabilitation of oligodontia patients via dental implants is regarded as an efficient and successful treatment. Considering the prosthetic rehabilitation of all missing permanent teeth, the present patient selected conventional tooth tissue supported prosthesis over implant-supported restorations because implant-supported restorations would require bone grafting and secondary surgical procedure for placement of implants to replace the missing teeth and to restore occlusion.

**Conclusion**

Treatment planning for oligodontia should be individualized for each patient. Prosthetic treatment is rendered in a stage wise manner initiating with removable prostheses and continued till full growth is attained. Treatment protocol during this stage includes periodic follow up for adjustment and remaking of prostheses during rapid growth period. Once full growth is achieved definitive treatment in form of implant supported fixed and/ or removable partial denture may be provided. It is emphasized that conventional prosthetic treatment can lead to a satisfactory result. Every case of oligodontia should be reported so as to enhance the understanding of this rare entity.

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**Figures Legend:**

Fig No	Description
FIG 1	Extraoral view
FIG 2(a) & 2(b)	Intraoral view
FIG 3(a) & 3(b)	OPG & Study Casts
FIG 4(a) & 4(b)	Extraction of teeth with poor prognosis
FIG 5(a) & 5(b)	Frenectomy performed in relation to maxillary labial frenum
FIG 6(a) & 6(b)	Endodontic treatment of carious affected teeth
FIG 7(a) & 7(b)	Tooth preparation of maxillary and mandibular teeth
FIG 8(a) & 8(b)	Cementation of crowns to maxillary teeth and cast metal copings on mandibular overdenture abutments
FIG 9(a) & 9(b)	Final impressions
FIG 10(a) & 10(b)	Try in and Post insertion facial view