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Morphology of posterior teeth as an indicator of healthy development: Different methods of its measurement

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Morphology of posterior dentition can provide a complex source of information about issues of ontogenic, phylogenic as well as clinical significance. According to inhibitory cascade model, it is supposed that the structures of occlusal area can be influenced by the developmental perturbances and can result in a change of variability of tooth morphology. Bias and asymmetry of tooth morphology can cause discomfort or malfunction with other possible implications for oral health. Our project is aimed on the influence of individual development on the variability of posterior teeth size and shape but also on the comparison of different methods of tooth morphology quantification. There are several possible ways to objectify the morphology of a tooth. The mesiodistal and buccolingual linear dimensions are widely used. However, occlusal area of a tooth crown or area of primary cusps are examples of other options and their use is facilitated with the advances in imaging technologies. Our sample consists of dental casts and their virtual reproductions. We used 168 maxillary and mandibulary first molars from 42 individuals to measure their crown dimensions and compare the ability of different dimensions to express the variability of teeth.

Biography

Petra Spevackova is a Doctoral student at the Department of Dentistry, University Hospital and Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen, Charles University in Prague.

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