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## The use of coronectomy in the management of mandibular teeth in pediatric patients

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Introduction: Occasionally pediatric patients present with symptomatic, unerupted non-third molar mandibular teeth which require surgical intervention but are known to be closely related to adjacent sensory nerves. Coronectomy is a conservative surgical technique in which the crown of a tooth is removed whilst the roots are deliberately left in situ and may represent the treatment of choice in this situation. Coronectomy is widely and successfully used to reduce the risk of postoperative neuropathy in the surgical management of symptomatic mandibular third molars which are intimately related to the inferior alveolar nerve canal.

Materials & Methods: We present three pediatric patients who had coronectomy as part of a pediatric dental, orthodontic and oral surgery multidisciplinary treatment plan. They were all assessed clinically, radio-graphically and with the use of cone beam tomography prior to treatment under day case general anesthetic.

Results: No patient experienced temporary or permanent postoperative sensory neuropathy or required further surgical intervention for root retrieval following coronectomy. An excellent result was achieved for the patient who had orthodontic treatment after coronectomy; the deliberately retained roots had little adverse effect on the alignment of adjacent teeth.

Discussion: We have demonstrated that coronectomy can be used successfully in pediatric patients as an alternative to extraction in the management of mandibular teeth in cases where extraction is considered to present a 'high risk' of postsurgical neuropathy. Whilst coronectomy may reduce the risk of neuropathy compared to extraction, it is not a risk or complication- free procedure.

## **Biography**

Omesh Modgill completed his BDS at the University of Bristol and obtained a postgraduate teaching qualification in Dental Education. Following a year of employment in general dental practice, he completed two years of training as a senior house officer in an oral and maxillofacial surgery unit. He currently works as a specialty doctor in the oral surgery department of Kings College Hospital in London. He has previously been published in a leading British dental journal and is actively involved in departmental research and audit projects.

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