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Reliability of panoramic radiograph alone in localization of unerupted maxillary canine in a central Saudi Arabian population

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Background & Objectives: The canine teeth are important both aesthetically and as functional occlusion. Understanding the location of cuspid impaction is critical to initiate a preventive and therapeutic surgical or orthodontics intervention. The objective in localization is selection of a suitable technique which has minimal radiation dose, cost and maximum details. Panoramic radiograph, being a screening radiograph, can satisfy the above needs. Taking this into consideration, the present study was done to evaluate the reliability of panoramic radiograph in localization of impacted maxillary canines, and determine its mean angle to the occlusal plane by applying the criteria suggested by Katsnelson, et al.

Material & Methods: A total of 8517 patient's radiographs at Dental Department of King Abdul Aziz Medical City, Riyadh were retrospectively evaluated. The age group of the patient included in the study was between 18 to 45 years. The patient's records and radiographs were evaluated to register the impacted maxillary canines, location and angulation to the occlusal plane. The obtained data was evaluated with SPSS 19 software to analyze and differentiate between the genders.

Results: Total of 291 patients had the impacted maxillary cuspid. The additional radiograph was available with 44 patient records to further analyze the location of impaction. Among 44 patients, 17 (38.64%) were males and 27 (61.36%) were female subjects. The 7 (15.9%) of the cuspids were labially impacted while 37 (84.1%) were palatally impacted. The mean impaction angles for labial and palatal impactions were 57.65 and 65.4 degrees, respectively.

Conclusion: The majority of canine impaction were palatally placed in comparison to labial impaction. The mean impaction angle of labial impaction is lesser than palatal impactions. There is no relationship between the angle of the impacted canine to the occlusal plane and its labio-palatal position.

Biography

Saeed Al Shahrani is a Dental Student pursuing his last year at King Khalid University, south region of Saudi Arabia.

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