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Does skeletal discrepancies influence canine position?

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Purpose of the study: To investigate canine position in two planes of space (sagitally and vertically) in relation to different skeletal malocclusion groups.

Methodology: This study was performed retrospectively on 45 patients with one or more impacted canines using cephalometric and orthopantomographic radiographic images. The sample represents both genders (males and females) with a mean age of 16 years. For comparison the recorded radiographic morphologic parameters were five: ANB angle, Wits appraisal analysis, Canine angulation, FH-MP, and axial inclination of maxillary incisor in sagittal plane.

Results: Our findings showed that upper canine impaction was more frequent than lower canine in both genders,and palatal impaction was more common than buccal with higher significance in male subjects than females. In sagittal relationshipthe highest frequency of impacted canine was found in CLIII skeletal discrepancy, while the lowest was in CI II div 2, Intermediated by CL I and CL II div 1.Comparison between both genders in vertical plane showed that impacted canines were more significant in female hyperdivergent faces, in contrary to the hypodivergent male patients who recorded more canine impaction.

Conclusion: Our studyindicatesthat there is a more significant association between canine impaction and sagittal or vertical dentofacial discrepancies. The results also indicate that patients with certain dentofacial deformities may can be at higher risk of having impacted canines. In conclusion impaction of canines may represent alternative benchmark for the study of different malocclusion groups with respect to racism and ethnicity.

Key words: Impacted canine, skeletal malocclusion, ANB angle, Wits appraisal

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