

Endodontic and conservative management of an occurrence of bilateral geminated mandibular second premolars -**Report of a case**

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Abstract

Aim: The aim of the present case to report endodontic and conservative management of bilateral geminated mandibular second premolars.

Summary: Gemination is one of the rare developmental anomalies of teeth. Diagnosis is very important in such cases in order to treat them successfully.

This paper reports a rare case (0.02%-0.05%) of management of bilaterally geminated mandibular premolars, one of which was endodontically treated and other was treated conservatively. This case also stresses about the preventive management of geminated tooth having complex morphology, so that further complications can be avoided.

In this case, Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) was used, along with traditional radiographic diagnostic aids viz., Radio visiography (RVG) and Orthopantomograph (OPG) to record the radiographic details to help in the diagnosis and treatment planning.

Keywords: Gemination, Mandibular Premolars, Complex Morphology, Cone Beam Computed Tomography.

Introduction

Developmental dental anomalies may occur due to abnormalities in number, size and shape or in structure. These may be congenital, inherited, acquired or idiopathic. A wide range of developmental anomalies exists, including dens invaginatus, taurodontism, fusion, gemination etc. There is a direct co-relation between developmental anomalies and pulp and periradicular diseases that require a multidisciplinary treatment approach.[1]

Gemination is one of the developmental dental anomalies, caused due to an attempt to make two teeth from one enamel organ. The terms double tooth, joined teeth, Schizodontism are synonyms of gemination. [2][3] According to American Association of Endodontics (2016), gemination can be defined as disturbance during odontogenesis, in which partial cleavage of tooth germ occurs and results in a tooth that has a double or 'twin' crown, usually not completely separated; there is a common shared root and pulp space.[1]

The prevalence rate of unilateral gemination is 0.5% in deciduous teeth whereas 0.1% in permanent dentition. Prevalence of bilateral gemination cases is 0.01% to 0.04% in primary dentition and only 0.02% to 0.05% in permanent dentition.4,5 It is more commonly seen in primary dentition than permanent. It is a rare occurrence in the posterior teeth.[6]

Case Report

The present case report is about a 14-year-old male patient reported to Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics with chief complaint of pain in lower right posterior tooth region for 1 week. On clinical examination, molar resembling tooth was seen at place of second premolar in right mandibular region, having deep occlusal caries exposing pulp. On thorough clinical examination, morphologically similar second premolar tooth in lower left quadrant was seen with complex pit and fissure pattern, having no caries. The mesio-distal diameters of clinical crowns of these mandibular second premolars were larger than normal and they appeared like molars. These molar-resembling second premolars gave impression of three molars and only one premolar in both quadrants intraorally (Figure 1). Past medical history was taken to rule out for some systemic disease. Past dental treatment history was taken to rule out any previous exodontia or orthodontic treatment. All the other teeth were having normal anatomy. Periodontal probing around these teeth and mobility were within physiological limits.

Radio visiography (RVG) revealed large occlusal radiolucency involving pulp with mandibular right second premolar. The mesio distal width of crown was equivalent to adjacent mandibular first molar, but only one completely developed conical root with one canal was present (Figure 2a). On the contralateral side, RVG revealed wide mesio distal width of mandibular left second premolar suggestive of gemination Figure 2(b).

The Orthopantomograph (OPG) revealed similar findings with respect to mandibular second premolars (Figure 3). OPG also revealed developing crowns of all third molars. These findings and normal root lengths of these teeth in mandibular second premolars positions

ruled out the possibility of over-retained primary second molars in these positions.

Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) images were analyzed for the root and root canal configuration. The cross sectional CBCT images showed one canal up to apical region with mandibular right second premolar (Figure 4).

Thermal tests and electric pulp test were carried out which showed delayed response with mandibular right second premolar. So, based on the chief complaint and clinical examination of the patient, a diagnosis of acute irreversible pulpitis was made.

Local anesthesia was given using 1.8 ml 2% lidocaine with 1:200,000 epinephrine. After rubber dam isolation, a conventional endodontic access opening was established with an Endo Access bur and an Endo Z bur (Figure 5a). Coronal enlargement was performed with a nickel-titanium Pro Taper SX rotary file to improve straight-line access. Root canal was explored with #10 K-files into the canal orifice followed by irrigation. Working length was determined using apex locator and confirmed by RVG (Figure 5b).

At the same appointment, cleaning and shaping were performed using Pro Taper (Dentsply) up to size F2 with a crown-down technique. Irrigation was performed using 2.5% sodium hypochlorite solution and 17% EDTA. Final rinse of the canal was performed using 2% chlorhexidine digluconate, and then dried with absorbent points and obturated with gutta-purcha cones using AH Plus resin sealer with lateral condensation technique. A final radiograph was taken to assess obturation (Figure 5d). After completion of root canal treatment, tooth was restored with packable composite restoration (3M ESPE).

Due to complex pit and fissure morphology of the geminated mandibular left second premolar, preventive

treatment of pit and fissure sealant application was planned. Saucerization of the irregular pits and fissures was carried out, followed by acid etching with 37% phosphoric acid (3M ESPE). After rinsing and drying, bonding agent (3M ESPE Ivoclar Tetric N- Bond Universal) was applied and light cured. Placement of flowable composite (3M ESPE Filtek Z350xt) as a pit and fissure sealant was carried out and final light curing was done (Figure 6). A follow-up of 1 and 3 months was taken and patient reported with no complain.

Discussion

Gemination is an attempt of the division of developing tooth bud resulting in an incomplete formation of two teeth. Gemination is often confused with fusion. Fusion and gemination has been described as results of developmental anomalies of dental tissues. Gemination is a developmental anomaly of tooth shape, which is recognized as an unsuccessful attempt by a single tooth germ to divide by invagination resulting in a large single tooth with bifid crown and usually single root and root canal in which tooth count is normal when anomalous tooth is counted as one.[7][8]

Gemination results in mirror images of the coronal halves, whereas fusion takes place at an angle causing crooked appearance. The anatomy of pulp is useful in differentiating these double teeth. Geminated teeth usually have a single big root and root canal. The tooth with gemination most often shows two crowns either totally or partially separated with a single root and one root canal.[9]

The present case report is about case that is bilateral gemination of mandibular second premolar tooth. [9,10] The tooth crown is having larger mesio-distal diameter than average size of mandibular second premolar tooth. This molarization of premolars can be associated with

any syndromes. [11,12] Our patient had no associated disease or syndrome.

In this case, root canal morphology was confirmed with help of CBCT (Cone beam computed tomography). Complex internal anatomy has stressed importance of taking CBCT before starting endodontic treatment. [13,14,15,16]

In the present case, complex occlusal morphology was seen in lower left second premolar because of gemination. Complex pits and fissures are more prone to caries development than smooth surfaces of tooth which can be due to morphological complexity of these surfaces.[17] Pit and fissure sealants can be used as preventive measure for caries prevention.[18] [19]

Thus, in the present case, preventive treatment by pit and fissure sealant application was carried out for mandibular left second premolar.

Conclusion

CBCT confirmed the complicated morphology of root canal system in geminated tooth, and was vital in its successful endodontic treatment.

This case report demonstrates a predictable and successful endodontic management of a geminated right second premolar; and preventive pit and fissure sealant treatment of a geminated left second premolar. This case report also emphasizes on occurrence of bilaterally geminated mandibular second premolars.

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Legend Figures



Figure 1: Occlusal photograph showing geminated premolars in both the quadrants in the mandible



Figure 2(a): RVG showing large occlusal radiolucency involving pulp with mandibular right second premolar (geminated)



Figure 2(b): RVG mandibular left second premolar showing gemination.



Figure 3: OPG revealing geminated premolars in the mandible.



Figure 4: CBCT image in different cross sections and reconstruction showing single root and large crown with mandibular second premolars confirming bilateral gemination.

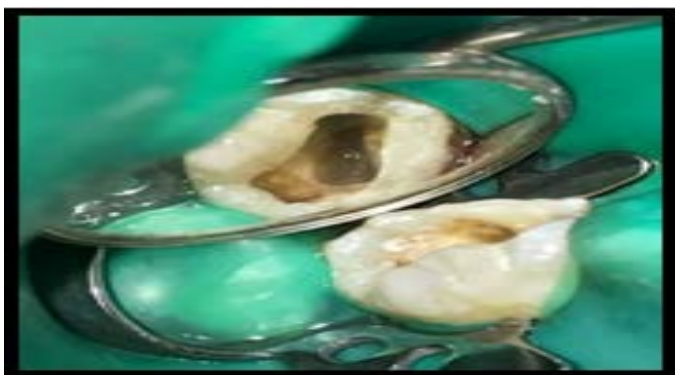


Figure 5a: Conventional endodontic access opening.

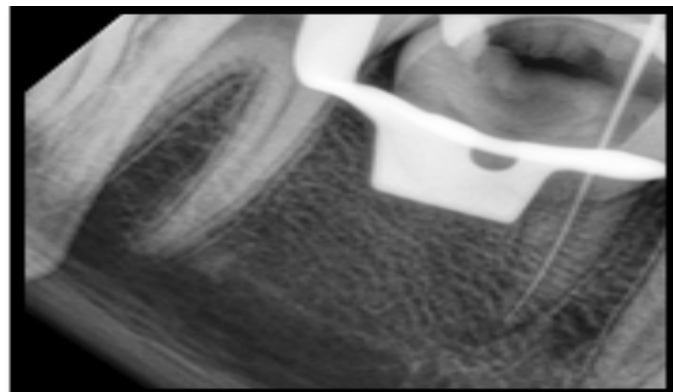


Figure 5b: Working length was determined by RVG.

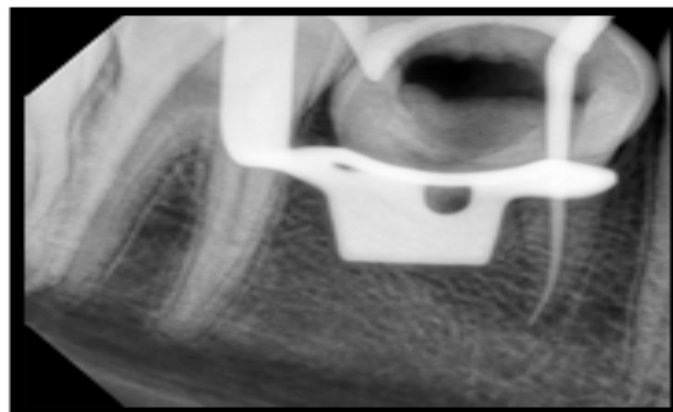


Figure 5c: Master cone RVG

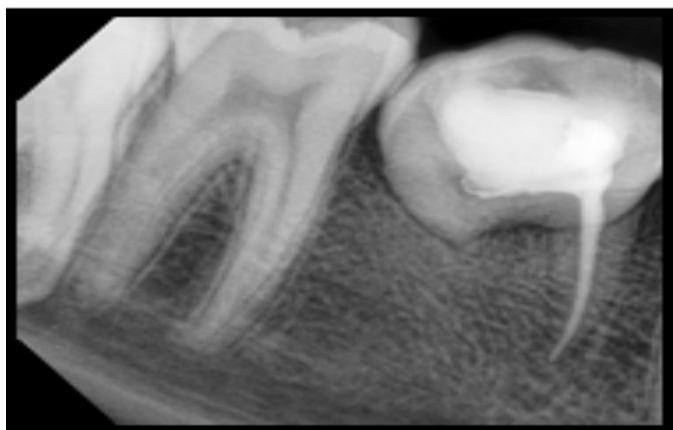


Figure 5d: Post obturation RVG.

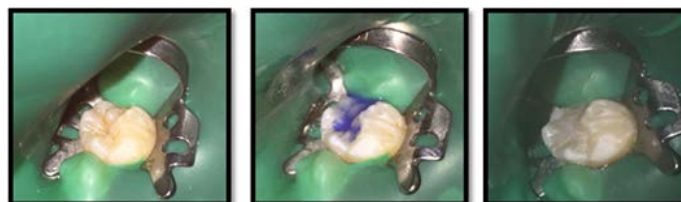


Figure 6: Pit and Fissure Sealant Application

Table: 1 Prevalence rate of gemination in deciduous and permanent teeth

	Deciduous teeth	Permanent teeth
Unilateral gemination	0.5%	0.1%
Bilateral gemination	0.01%-0.04%	0.02%-0.05%