



Dentition - Changing Shifts

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Clinical Image

Dental eruption is a dynamic and complex biological and physiological process that spans over several years and includes the formation of teeth and their migration in the jaws until they erupt in the mouth in their final functional position. Variation in the normal teeth eruption pattern is a common finding, but significant deviation from the established norms should alert us for some diagnostic procedures to be taken for assessment of the patient health and development (Figure 1). Certain syndromes result in failed or delayed dentition as there are many regulatory



Figure 1: Pre mature third molar eruption pattern in 13 year old female.



Figure 2: Ectopic eruption.



Figure 3: Ectopic eruption.

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mechanisms that are involved in dentition and are also active in other developmental processes [1]. There are certain genetic disorders that affect teeth eruption (Figure 2). Most of them are reported to delay permanent teeth eruption; others are associated with complete failure teeth to erupt. Genetic disorders can be divided into disorders that affect enamel formation and/or the tooth follicle (e.g. Amelogenesis Imperfecta, Hurler's syndrome, mucopolysaccharidosis VI) and disorders that interfere with orthoclastic activity (e.g. Cleidocranial dysplasia, osteopetrosis) [2] (Figure 3). The food habits, evolution, genetics, environmental factors, syndromes to name a few are affecting the dentition resulting in delayed eruption or failure of eruption or

ectopic eruption due to lack of space as the teeth complement remains the same but the jaw size is diminishing.

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