

Images for Diagnosis

Regional odontodysplasia "ghost teeth": a rare developmental anomaly

Sarah Tabbai* , Hind Ramdi

Pediatric Dentistry Department, CH Ibn Sina, Faculty of Dentistry, Mohammed V University in Rabat, Rabat, Morocco

(Received: 2 May 2023, accepted: 9 May 2023)

Regional odontodysplasia (RO) is a rare developmental anomaly characterized by hypoplasia and hypocalcification of dental tissues derived from mesoderm and ectoderm. Its prevalence is reported to be less than 1/1,000,000. The involved teeth are yellow or brown and show abnormal morphology.

An 11-year-old male patient was referred to our department with delayed eruption of his maxillary permanent centrals, right lateral, and canine teeth. The patient's mother reported that the anterior right deciduous teeth had a yellowish color and were lost due to carious processes.

Upon examination, the patient's maxillary arch was underdeveloped on the right side with a slight midline shift to the left (Fig. 1). Radiographically, the unerupted teeth had a typical "ghost-like" appearance, with a mild radiopaque outline and no proper crown shape or structure, and unclear enamel and dentin demarcation (Fig. 2).

Treatment options, including monitoring the condition with growth activation or extracting if the tooth germs are affected to prevent further complications, were discussed.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest in relation to this article.

Funding

This article did not receive any specific funding.

Ethical Approval

Ethical forms have been respected.

* Correspondence: sarah.tabbai@gmail.com



Fig. 1. Clinical appearance.



Fig. 2. Radiological finding: ghost like teeth.

Informed consent

The patient has been informed of the publication and has no objections.

Author's contribution

Sarah Tabbai: Patient management and writing of the manuscript; Hind Ramdi: Patient management and proofreading of the manuscript.