

Images for Diagnosis

Fusion of primary maxillary incisors

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A 6 year old female patient reported with the complaint of loose teeth in the upper front teeth region. There was no reported history of pain associated with the loose teeth. On Clinical examination, a Primary tooth with large double crown involving the right central and lateral maxillary incisors, uniting along the proximal aspect was observed (Fig. 1). Grade II mobility was elicited on palpation. Based on the clinical appearance of double primary tooth and on considering the presence of all other primary teeth other than the exfoliated left maxillary central incisor, a diagnosis of fusion of the primary right maxillary central and lateral incisors was made. Extraction of the tooth was performed and examined under Stereomicroscopy. The fused teeth demonstrated normal enamel and dentin united together at the Centre exhibiting two separate pulp chambers. (Fig. 2a,b,c).

Fusion is an intra-osseous developmental anomaly of teeth, though primary mandibular incisors are more frequently



Fig. 1. Clinical photograph demonstrating fused primary right maxillary central and lateral incisors.

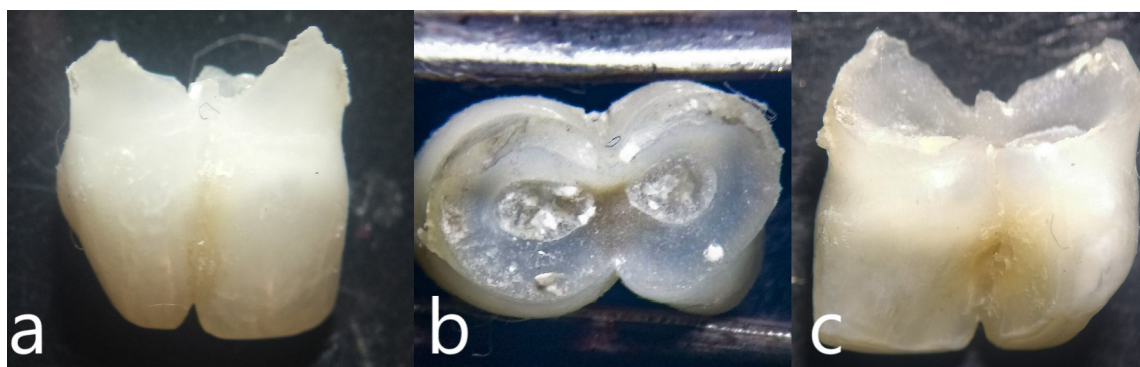


Fig. 2. Stereomicroscopic image under 100x demonstrating the morphology of the crown of the fused teeth with union of enamel and dentin.

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affected, maxillary incisors may also be affected. It is necessary to identify the condition and to screen for developmental anomalies in the underlying permanent teeth such as peg shaped teeth, double teeth, congenitally missing teeth and fusion or gemination.

Conflict of interest

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Ethical approval

The authors declare that Ethical approval was not required.

Informed consent

The authors declare that informed consent has been obtained.

Authors' contribution

MFA and RLC have done the literature search, preparation of the manuscript; and RLC has edited the manuscript.