A mandibular supernumerary supplemental incisor

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DESCRIPTION

An 11-year-old girl presented with malaligned lower front teeth. Medical and family histories did not reveal any relevant positive findings. Intraoral examination revealed class I molar relationship with crowding in lower arch. A supernumerary tooth on the lingual aspect of right mandibular central incisor was observed which was morphologically similar to the permanent mandibular central incisor (figure 1). Radiographic examination revealed the supernumerary tooth to be truly supplemental as it resembled mandibular central incisors (figure 2). The patient was advised for extraction of the supplemental incisor followed by the orthodontic treatment, but the patient was not willing to undergo extraction.

A supplemental supernumerary tooth has the same morphology as a normal tooth. Prevalence of supernumerary teeth is higher in the maxillary anterior region but is a rare finding in the mandibular anterior region which accounts for only about 1% of all supernumerary teeth.¹ Complications associated with supernumerary teeth are many such as delayed or ectopic eruption of adjacent teeth, crowding, development of midline diastema, formation of dentigerous cyst, impaction and root resorption of adjacent teeth.^{2 3}

Figure 1 Intraoral photograph showing mandibular supplemental incisor.

Figure 2 Orthopantomogram of 11-year-old child showing supplemental mandibular incisor.

Learning points

- ▶ Supplemental supernumerary teeth in mandibular arch are usually very rare and difficult to differentiate from the permanent teeth because of the similar morphological characteristics.
- ▶ Presence of supplemental supernumerary mandibular central incisor may lead to lower anterior crowding and gingival problems.
- ▶ Supplemental supernumerary teeth usually have the same proportions of enamel, dentin and pulp tissue as that of normal teeth.

Competing interests None.

Patient consent Obtained.

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