Rare anatomical variations of third molars: Two cases reported

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Abstract
The size of tooth and appearance are being easily noticed. The crown of the tooth is being affected by the majority of pathological variations in the morphology of tooth. Variations in the morphology of tooth have been a topic of interest to dentists since long time.[1]
We report here, two rare cases of four-rooted maxillary third molar and three-rooted mandibular third molar. Extraction of such type of teeth is considered to be a difficult task. We had managed extraction of these teeth with absence of any postoperative complications and teeth were being extracted in-toto.

Keywords: Maxillary third molar, Mandibular third molar, Morphological variations, Three rooted molar, Four rooted molar.

Introduction
In this article, we are reporting two rare cases .In the first case, the maxillary third molar is having four roots and in the second case, mandibular third molar is having three roots. Both these incidences are very rare. Extraction of these teeth is considered to be difficult because of abnormal root patterns. But, both cases were managed in the department of oral and maxillofacial surgery of M.A. Rangoonwala College of Dental Sciences and Research Centre, Pune. Although these teeth were having abnormal and difficult root patterns, we had extracted these teeth in-toto with no postoperative complications. Fig. 1 shows extracted maxillary third molar tooth which is having four roots whereas Fig. 2 indicates extracted mandibular third molar tooth which is having three roots.

Fig. 1: Four rooted maxillary third molar

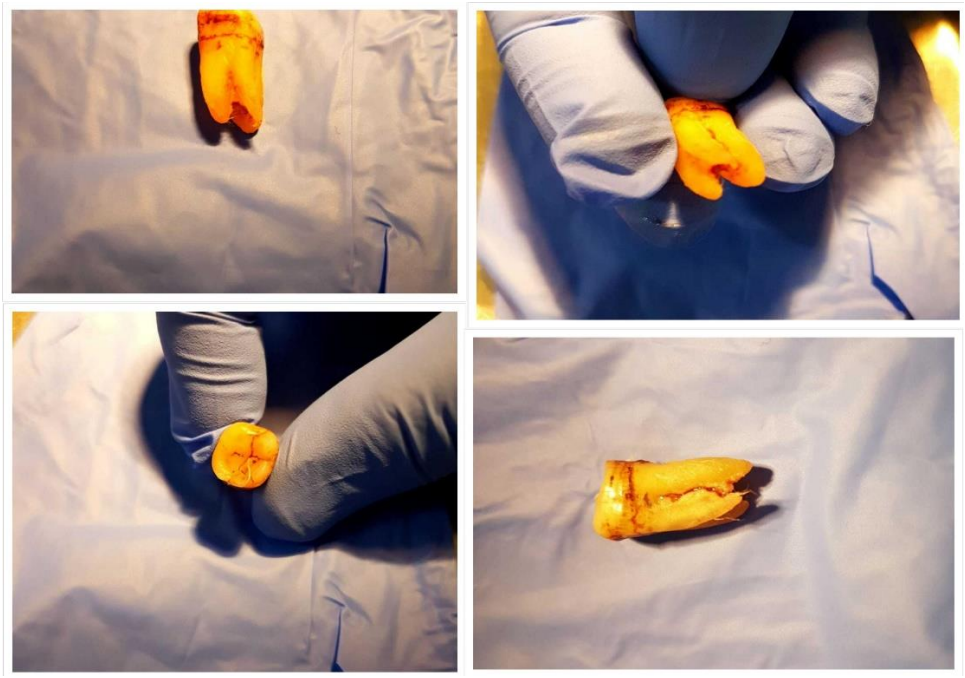

Fig. 2: Three rooted mandibular third molar

Discussion

There are various abnormalities of tooth form, like variations in number of roots, variations in form of root. Permanent maxillary peg shaped lateral incisors is the common form of abnormality seen whereas complete anodontia is the rare abnormality which is seen.[1]

Third molar teeth are more prone to complications as they are located posteriorly in the oral cavity and they have complicated anatomy. Because of this difficulty, extraction of third molars proves treatment of choice for many dentists.[8]

Third molars are also known as wisdom teeth. These third molars are more prone to postoperative problems as they are located posteriorly in the arch. They have complex anatomy and their eruption patterns are abnormal. While extracting third molars, minimal interventions are necessary and we should retain every functional component of the dental arch. Anatomy and location of mandibular third molar teeth need careful consideration because of the possibility of damage to the inferior alveolar nerve.[8]

Conclusion

Variations and developmental anomalies of teeth should be examined by the clinician properly for delivering the best treatment plan, i.e., it may be endodontic treatment or extraction.

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