Synodontia is the union of two or more teeth. This anomaly may occur between two or more normal teeth or between the normal tooth and a supernumerary tooth. The presence of synodontia in the primary dentition is associated with a high degree of anomalies of the permanent dentition. The present case describes the synodontia between the deciduous left central and lateral incisor with a supernumerary tooth. Intra oral periapical radiograph of the fused teeth revealed incomplete fusion of the crowns of the supernumerary tooth with that of the central and lateral incisors, with separate pulp chambers and canals. The permanent maxillary left lateral incisor was found to be missing in the OPG view. Positive family history of patient's father having similar fused teeth was obtained. Treatment included restoration of cavities and sealing the grooves with pit and fissure sealant, as these fused teeth did not disturb the erupting permanent central incisor.


Key words: Synodontia, Supernumerary deciduous tooth, Missing teeth.

Synodontia (S.O) is the union of two or more teeth. Other terms used to describe such conditions are fused teeth, double teeth, joined teeth, etc. S.O is an infrequently occurring developmental anomaly with prevalence rate of about 0.5-16%. This condition is commonly seen in the lower anterior teeth in the incisor, canine region. Isolated cases involving molars or its association with Orodental syndrome are also reported.

The etiology of synodontia is not exactly known, but is believed that some physical forces or pressures cause the contact of developing teeth. Other explanations used to describe the cause include, excess administration of vitamin A to animals, viral infection during pregnancy and use of thalidomide by pregnant women. Spouge stated that this union is purely coincidental and other investigators have also confirmed heredity as a contributing factor. This union may occur completely or incompletely depending on the developmental stage of teeth. If it occurs before the calcification stage, the teeth unite completely and form one large tooth. The incomplete fusion may be at the root level if the contact and union of the teeth occurs after the formation of crown. Complete fusion may be characterized by only one pulp chamber and one root canal; one camber but two individual root canal or two pulp chambers and two root canals. Yeun et al. believed that this abnormality is dependent on the time and extent of the insult during odontogenesis. This anomaly may occur between two or more normal teeth or between the normal tooth and a supernumerary tooth.

The presence of double tooth is the primary dentition is associated with a high degree of anomalies of the permanent dentition. Winter and Brook reported that the overall frequency of the permanent anomalies following primary double tooth is 30-50% in Caucasian and 75% in Japanese. The most common effect reported is hypodontia of the permanent successor and had been reported by several researchers. Other abnormalities found are conical or peg shaped permanent tooth, delayed eruption of permanent tooth, or presence of supernumerary tooth.

Supernumerary tooth is seen infrequently in the primary dentition with the prevalence rate of 0.2-0.8% and is usually of the supplemental type. Supernumerary tooth develops as a consequence of the proliferation of epithelial cells from dental lamina. Hypodontia of the permanent dentition has been reported following primary supernumerary tooth but majority of the cases experience presence of supernumerary permanent successor.

Common problems associated with fused teeth are delayed