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INFLUENCE OF TOOTH STRUCTURE LESIONS ON EFFECTIVENESS OF DENTAL AGE ESTIMATION METHOD

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Summary : Method of Kvaal et al., which depends on proportions of specific measurements of tooth and pulp lengths and widths was approbated on 88 digital panoramic X-rays photos of patients with pathological attrition made by Planmeca PROMAX orthopantomograph on the base of Uzhhorod National University Dental Clinic. The mistakes that reaches $24 \pm 5,6$ years were found during calculation of dental age using primary coefficients proposed by authors of technique. Also were found that the intensity of tertiary dentine deposition has linear regression depends on the pathology it is related to (bruxism, physiological issues, low level of mineralization, occlusal pathology caused by abnormal prosthetic treatment), which affect the result of age determination.

Key words : Age determination, radiographic technique, pathological attrition, regression analyses, dentine deposition.

Age is the least variable and most probably accurate in determining indicator, since the aging process most independently reflected the changes of the pulp and hard tissues of the teeth compare to any other functional systems of the body that are more vulnerable to the effects of pathologies features, constitution

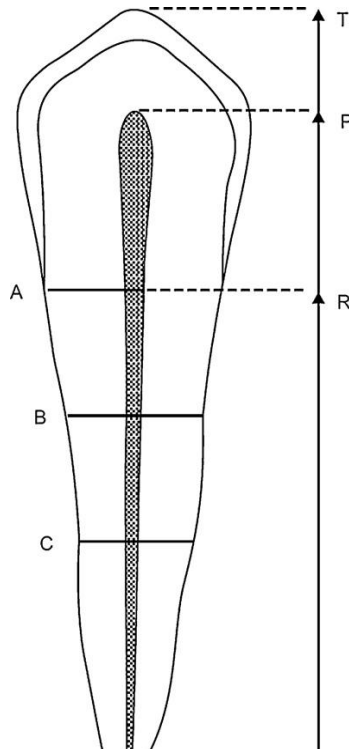
and physiological defects [1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 13]. Kvaal et al. technique of age estimation involves calculating ratio of length of crown and root to the length of the pulp, width of the root to the width of the pulp in specifically designated locations, search of averages and the use of standardized coefficients for the final result [4, 5, 6, 7]. But when abnormal occlusion, disfunctional chewing habits, bruxism, abrasive factors or structural defects in teeth take place the intensity of tooth aging accelerates [3, 4, 11]. Formation of reparative tertiary dentine, closing volume of pulp chamber and dystrophy processes taking place in pulp structure which is not usual for physiological attrition. Due to all these factors and principles we approve primary method of Kvaal et al. age estimation among patients with pathological attrition.

OBJECTIVE

To evaluate specific changes of ratio measurements during approbation of Kvaal et al. age estimation technique in the conditions of pathological attrition.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Based on randomized selection of panoramic x-rays photo of patients with pathological attrition of teeth were selected 88 of them (29 males and 59 females). All photos were made with Planmeca PROMAX orthopantomograph. All measurements were made using "Measurement tool" in Adobe Photoshop CS3 primary in pixels amount and then converted to millimeters and all the calculations were done due to the original Kvaal et al. algorithm of age estimation ($T -$ maximum tooth length; $R -$ root length; $P -$ maximum pulp length; $A -$ root and pulp width at cement-enamel junction; $B -$ root and pulp width at one-quarter of the root length from the cement-enamel junction; $C -$ root and pulp width midway between cement-enamel junction and root apex) [1, 5, 7, 8, 9] (fig.1). All ratios were calculated using standard Microsoft Office program package with a help of Microsoft Office Excel.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The most significant correlation between tooth and age result were found in upper (r=0,69) and lower (r=0,74) incisors, and lower premolar (r=0,72). The lowest correlation was found at lower canine in patients with pathological attrition (r=0,32). It could be explained because of level of influence of pathological attrition on different types of tooth. The Pearson correlation coefficients between chronological age and the different ratios (P, T, R, A, B, C – original for age estimation technique) calculated based on length and width measurements directly on the orthopantomographs are displayed in Table 1

Figure 1. Specific indicators for Kvaal et al. age estimation technique

Table 1
Correlation between age of patients with pathological attrition and the ratios of measurements due to the original Kvaal et al. method

	Upper central incisor	Upper lateral incisor	Upper second premolar	Lower lateral incisor	Lower canine	Lower first premolar
P	-0.11	-0.08	-0.16	-0.15	-0.07	-0.49
T	-0.34	-0.07	-0.11	-0.12	-0.16	-0.44
R	0.24	-0.14	-0.16	-0.12	-0.04	-0.28
A	-0.19	-0.30	-0.16	-0.22	-0.90	-0.10
B	-0.30	-0.20	-0.16	-0.32	-0.14	-0.20
C	-0.32	-0.30	-0.27	-0.31	-0.15	-0.20
M	-0.31	-0.26	-0.21	-0.34	-0.17	-0.39
L	-0.08	-0.11	-0.17	-0.27	-0.14	-0.23
W-L	-0.39	-0.14	-0.08	-0.30	-0.02	0.21

The differences compare to primary correlation are significant at R, L, W and A ratios. It can be explained by specific processes which occurs teeth during pathological attrition. Statistical difference of results in male and female groups was not significantly strong ($p \geq 0,1$).

Through our examination we found that the attrition caused by bruxism, abnormal occlusion because of disspositioned tooth and incorrect prosthetic treatment may cause proportional constant intense deposition of tertiary reparative dentine and lowering of occlusal surface relative to the time for which pathology occurs. However, pathology attrition because of abnormal tooth structures or abrasion

factors is not progression process during which pulp structures and hard tissues changes can be based on timeline, and level of changes occur different acceleration during different periods of time. Final results were ranged within level of mistake up to $24 \pm 5,6$ years.

CONCLUSIONS

During this study were reviewed Kvaal et al. age estimation technique on patients with pathological attrition and found level of mistakes which reaches nearly 47-49%. Using

component regression analysis and Pearson's coefficients

we found correlation between age results and level of tooth surface attrition and deposition of tertiary reparative dentine relative to the kind of pathology which cause the pathological attrition and the time when pathology occurs.

The strongest correlation was found between changes in incisors and lower first premolar. Changes in canine during pathology attrition does not gravely affect the finish result.

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