

## Non-Surgical Management of Dens Invaginatus with A Large Periapical Lesion with The Aid of CBCT.

### Abstract:

Maxillary lateral incisors show a high incidence of anatomic variation Dens Invaginatus is a developmental anomaly of teeth characterized by infoldings of enamel, dentin and extend up to the apex. Such a condition is often associated with dental caries, pulpal and periodontal pathology. Root canal treatment of this abnormality is considered difficult due to the complex anatomy. This article discusses case report of a tooth with Dens Invaginatus with emphasis on correct diagnosis, treatment planning and nonsurgical healing with no extra intervention of a large periapical lesion associated with invaginated tooth.

**Keywords:** Dens Invaginatus, CBCT, Nonsurgical treatment, Calcium Hydroxide

### Introduction:

Dens invaginatus is a rare tooth malformation caused by infolding of enamel organ into adjacent dental papilla during tooth development.[1] The etiology could be focal growth retardation, focal growth stimulation or localized external pressure in certain areas of the tooth bud. [2-4] In a radiograph it presents as a radiopaque invagination, extending from cingulum into root canal. Unusual crown morphology like dilated, peg shaped or barrel shaped teeth may raise a suspicion. The prevalence of dens invaginatus has been reported to be between 0.3–10%. Permanent maxillary lateral incisors are the most frequently involved teeth.

The most common classification proposed by Oehlers, categorizes invaginations into three classes as determined by how far they extend radiographically from the crown into the root.[5]

**Type I:** The invagination is confined within the crown of the tooth and does not extend beyond the level of cemento-enamel junction.

**Type II:** The invagination extends into the pulp chamber but remains within the root canal with no communication with the periodontal ligament

**Type IIIA:** The invagination extends through the root and communicates laterally with the periodontal ligament space through a pseudo-foramen. There is usually no communication with the pulp, which lies compressed within the root.

**Type IIIB:** The invagination extends through the root and communicates with the periodontal ligament at the apical foramen. There is usually no communication with the pulp.

An early diagnosis is crucial as invagination is inaccessible to oral hygiene procedures, and patients might present with pulpal or periapical periodontal symptoms of. Various techniques are employed for treating dens Invaginatus: conservative restorative treatment, non-surgical root canal treatment, endodontic surgery, intentional replantation and extraction. [6-9]

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The anatomy of dens invaginatus is so complex that conventional two-dimensional radiographs might not yield sufficient diagnostic information which hinders the effective management of the tooth. Through Cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), images can be reconstructed using significantly lower radiation doses compared with the alternative conventional computed tomography.<sup>10</sup> The purpose of the present clinical article is to demonstrate the use of CBCT as an effective diagnostic tool for the management of a large periapical cyst associated with a tooth containing dens invaginatus type II.

**Case report :**

A healthy 21-year-old male patient with noncontributory medical history came with a complaint of swelling in the upper right front tooth region. He gave a history of acute pain and swelling several times periodically for the last 5 years and was prescribed antibiotics each time. No history of dental trauma reported.

Clinical examination revealed a diffused swelling extending from 11 to 13 with a sinus opening in the labial sulcus of 12. While there was no signs of caries or restoration, a prominent cingulum was seen on the palatal surface of 12 (fig.1). It was also observed that the mesiodistal dimensions of 12 was visibly larger than the contralateral tooth. The tooth was tender to percussion, periodontal probing depths were within normal limits and thermal and electric vitality tests were found to be negative. Radiographic examination revealed a complicated crown and root morphology associated with tooth 12 suggestive of invagination (fig.2).



Fig1

Fig2

Morphology of the invagination was not clear from the diagnostic parallax radiographs, so a small volume CBCT scan of the tooth was advised to aid in the diagnosis and

appropriate treatment protocol. A small volume CBCT scan of the area of interest with exposure parameters of 80 kV, 3.0 mA and 17.5 s were taken. Careful examination of cross-sectional images of the invaginated tooth in all the orthogonal planes confirmed the presence of a class II dens invaginatus. The invagination was located distopalatal to the main canal reaching upto apical third of the root not communicating with the pulp space or the root canal but confined as a blind sac and appeared to be lined entirely with enamel. At the apex of the invagination, the surrounding pulp space ballooned out into the walls of the root before tapering to the tooth's true apical foramen. A well-defined periapical lesion of approximate dimension of 9\*13 mm was present which caused thinning of labial and lingual cortical plates along with thinning of floor of nasal cavity (fig.3,4).

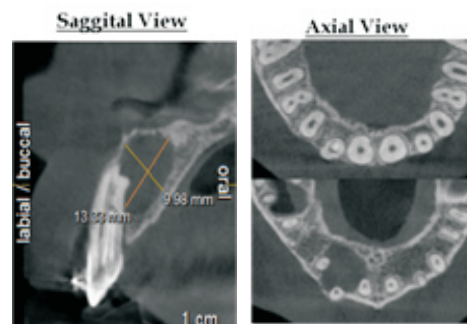


Fig3

Fig4

A decision was made to initiate endodontic therapy followed by surgical intervention. Endodontic treatment was carried out under rubber dam isolation (fig.5). Upon access and negotiation of the dens with hand files (Dentsply Maillefer, Ballaigues, Switzerland), drainage of serous fluid from the main canal was established, which was allowed to drain and settle after instrumentation. The base of the invagination was explored with progressively smaller hand files (sizes 15, 10, 08 and 06). The walls felt smooth when probed gently, and there was no apparent breach in the integrity of what appeared to be an enamel-lined pouch. Working length of main canal and invaginatus canal was established separately and the canal was chemomechanically debrided with hand files using copious irrigation of 1% sodium hypochlorite solution (fig.6). The irrigant was agitated for one minute using an ISO size 15 K-type ultrasonic file (Dentsply Maillefer). After cleaning and shaping, the main canal was dried and calcium hydroxide paste (metapex) was extruded for the healing of periapical lesion (fig.7). The canal was then sealed with a sterile cotton

pellet and IRM (Dentsply Maillefer). Dressing was changed every 2 months. After 4 months, there was substantial reduction in the size of lesion, so we decided to treat it non-surgically (fig.8). Before obturation, in order to confirm the radiographic findings, CBCT imaging was again done. It revealed substantial reduction in the size of lesion, thickening of cortical plates and bony trabeculae formation within the lesion (fig.9). The calcium hydroxide dressing was removed and the pulp cavity was cleaned cautiously and dried. Main canal was obturated with warm vertical compaction followed by backfill with using the rmoplastisized gutta percha while invaginated canal was obturated with lateral compaction (fig.10). The patient was reviewed 2 years later. Tooth 12 was asymptomatic and radiographically there was reduction in the size of the periradicular lesion with the signs of healing (fig.11).

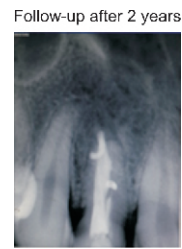
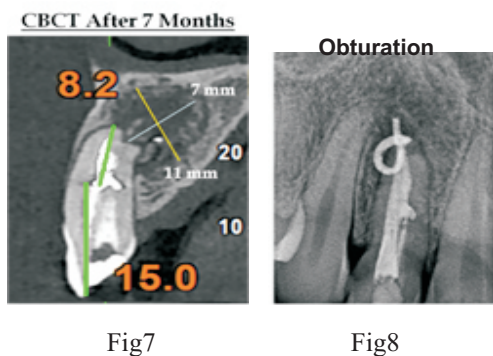
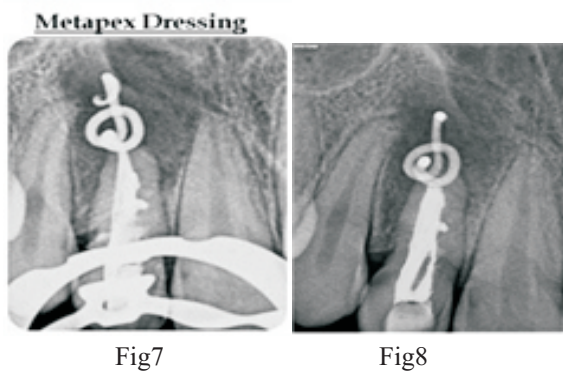
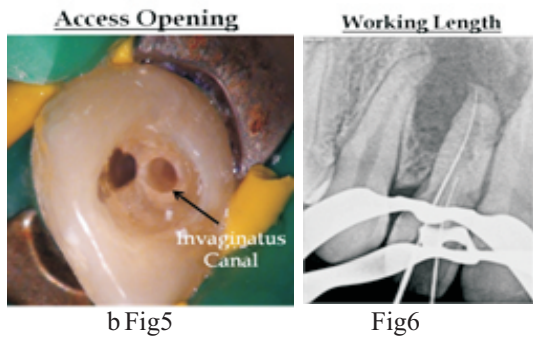


Fig 11.

**Discussion:**

Procuring knowledge of variations in root canal configuration and meticulous diagnosis can prevent many root canal treatment failures. The teeth affected with dens invaginatus are associated with an increased risk of developing pulpal problems even without any evidence of caries or history of trauma. Such teeth are susceptible to caries because deep pits act as places of stagnation. Diagnostic yield of conventional radiographs is greatly reduced by geometric distortion, anatomical noise and the compression of three-dimensional structures into a two-dimensional image. [11,12] Cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), allows three-dimensional imaging of dental structures thereby aiding in the diagnosis of complicated canal anatomies. In this case, contemporary three-dimensional radiographic techniques enabled accurate morphology of the invagination, size of the lesion and its approximation to the important anatomical landmarks.

Root canal treatment is on similar tangent as surgery. Both believe in debridement of the necrotic and conservation of the tissue that can heal. The requirement for successful endodontic treatment is the complete removal of all irritants from the root canal system followed by its obturation with a biocompatible material. When treating such cases, it is essential to know the course of invagination and its relation to the main canal for proper instrumentation, chemomechanical preparation, and the technique to fill the main canal and invaginated. Root canal was irregular in cross-section, with wave-like constrictions and dilatations. For these reasons, a variety of techniques or materials are chosen for the most appropriate removal of necrotic tissue and bacteria. Sodium hypochlorite was agitated ultrasonically to allow it to penetrate the space around the invagination and the use of warm vertical condensation of gutta-percha ensured compact filling into the major irregularities within the root canal system.

Non surgical treatment with periapical extrusion of calcium hydroxide paste was chosen to treat this case. Over-instrumentation 1 mm beyond the apical foramen allows drainage of the cystic fluid, degeneration of the epithelial cells and the inflammatory reaction that develops destroys the cyst lining and converts the lesion into a granuloma. Once the causative factors are eliminated the granuloma heals spontaneously.[14-15]

Calcium hydroxide is a widely used material because it is bactericidal and stimulates hard tissue repair. Direct contact between the calcium hydroxide and the periapical tissue was beneficial for several reasons.[17] The action of calcium hydroxide beyond the apex may be fourfold: (i) anti-inflammatory activity (ii) neutralization of acid products (iii) activation of the alkaline phosphatase (iv) antibacterial action.[18]

With CBCT there is an increased radiation exposure to the patient when compared to periapical radiographs. So, the effective radiation dose to the patient must be as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA), justified and optimized. 19-20 For this reason, a small volume CBCT scan was prescribed in this case. In this case, proper treatment could not have been accurately planned and delivered successfully without the aid of CBCT images thus making it a viable tool for endodontic diagnosis and treatment planning.

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