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MANAGEMENT OF AVULSED AND SEVERELY INTRUDED TEETH IN A PATIENT

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ABSTRACT

This case report describes the treatment of avulsion and intrusion trauma of the upper left incisors in a 21-year-old female patient. The avulsed tooth was stored in dry conditions for 48 h since the accident happened. Teeth were treated according to the trauma protocol recommended for avulsed and intrud ed teeth. During the 1-year follow-up period, absence of mobility, root resorption, or any symptoms were observed in the clinical and radiological examination.

Keywords: Avulsion, delayed replantation, dental injuries, intrusion.

INTRODUCTION

Dental injury is (DI) widespread. Nearly 30% of people worldwide experienced a DI during their lifetime (1). DI mainly involves the maxillary anterior teeth (2). Visibility of maxillary incisors, overjet, and interlabial gaps are con sidered predisposing factors associated with incisors' injury (3). The total displacement of the tooth out of its socket is described as avulsion and considered one of the most severe dental injuries (4). Avulsion in permanent dentition constitutes 0.5%-16% of all DIs (5,6). The prognosis depends on the time of replantation at the place of the accident or promptly after the avulsion (4). The optimal treatment is replantation of the avulsed tooth as immediately as possible (7). If the time out of the socket exceeds more than 30 min, all periodontal ligament cells become nonviable due to suffering from dehydration in severe cases (8–10). Therefore, it is important to learn the exact time of avulsion and storage conditions of the avulsed tooth before replantation to estimate a possible prognosis scenario and inform the patient (11). Despite the immediate replantation being currently the best option, replanted avulsed teeth could present complications after following root canal treatment as development of infection-related (inflammatory) resorption and ankylosis-related (replacement) resorption. The displacement of a tooth farther into the alveolar sock et is described as intrusive luxation and occurs in 3% of all traumatic dental injuries in permanent dentition (12). The injury is severe because the pulp and periodontal ligament become extremely damaged. Thus, intruded tooth healing is complex and difficult (6). Inflammatory root resorption, pulp necrosis, loss of marginal bone support, gingival retraction, calcification of the pulp tissue, paralysis or disturbance of root development, and dentoalveolar ankylosis may occur as complications of intrusive luxation (13,14). For intruded teeth, different treatment procedures have been prepared by the International Association of Dental Traumatology (IADT) (15). Spontaneous re-eruption, surgical repositioning, orthodontic extrusion, and the combination of surgical repositioning and orthodontic extrusion are acceptable treatment options for intruded teeth (16,17). But the ideal treatment methodfor an intruded tooth is not specified in the literature, and treatment procedures are usually conflicting (18). In this study, a case of multiple dental trauma on the left upper incisors of a young female adult is reported. Considering the poor prognosis, this study describes the treatment planning of avulsed and intruded upper left incisors 48 h after the accident. This study aimed to highlight the importance of prompt treatment and management of oral trauma protocols.

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CASE REPORT

A systemically healthy 21-year-old female patient was referred to the endodontic department of Rama dental College, Mandhna, Kanpur to treat a traumatically avulsed upper left central incisor after the accident. The patient went to the hospital's medical emergency services and antibiotics were given, but the avulsed tooth was not repositioned. After the clinical and radiological examination, it was found that the soft tissues were damaged, the maxillary left central incisor was avulsed, and the upper left lateral incisor was intruded (Fig. 1).

After the patient was informed about the treatment plans, the root surface of the upper left central incisor was cleaned, rinsed with sterile saline solution, and stored in sodium fluoride for 5 min. The tooth socket was rinsed with sterile saline solution, the upper left central tooth was reimplanted, and the upper left lateral tooth was repositioned. A semiflexible splint was made using orthodontic wire and composite resin for traumatized teeth. Endodontic access cavities were opened on the teeth, and root canal treatments were started (Fig. 2). After determining the working length of the canals with the apex locator, the root canal system was chemomechanically instrumented using ProTaper Next (Dentsply Sirona, Ballaigues, Switzerland) rotary file systems. Root canals during preparation were irrigated with 5.25% so dium hypochlorite followed by 17% liquid ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid. After the preparation, calcium hydroxide (Ca(OH)2), as an intracanal medicament, was placed and the patient was scheduled for control 2 weeks later. In the next appointment, the splint was removed and gutta-percha andresin-based root canal paste (Adseal, Meta Biomed, South Korea) were applied. The root canal system was filled with the cold lateral compaction method. The permanent resto ration of the teeth was completed using composite resin with dentin adhesive.

DISCUSSION

A traumatically avulsed incisor is challenging for a clinician. This case report shows the importance of replantation of the traumatized teeth although cases such as this one has a poor prognosis. For avulsed teeth, the optimum treatment option is immediate replantation because peri odontal ligament cells are protected and the probability of root resorption is decreased (6,9,19). Although an avulsed tooth may not be promptly replanted, the tooth must be kept in a storage medium such as milk, saline, water, saliva, or HBSS (20,21). Except for saliva, other storage solutions may not be found easily at the accident site. Although saliva has features such as nonsterile and low osmolarity, it prevents tooth suffering from dehydration until a more suitable storage medium is obtained (22). After period out of socket exceeds 60 min, all PDL cells become nonviable and the healing chances are less (8). In the present case, the tooth was kept in dry storage until reimplantation, and the avulsed tooth was replanted after 48 h. Although this case report had unfavorable storage conditions and more time elapsed after the event, traumatized teeth were successfully healed. Splinting is important to providing patient comfort, keeping traumatized teeth in a suitable position in the socket and improving function (23–25). Studies have shown that the structure of the tissue and pulp recovery are positively influenced, and root resorption is reduced if the replant ed tooth is prevented from excess mobility and function (26,27). It was found in animal studies that injured PDL cells regained most of their mechanical properties 2 weeks after trauma (28). Therefore, traumatized teeth were splinted to adjacent teeth with composite resin and semi rigid wire for 2 weeks. In cases of avulsed teeth, the various agents used may slow down the resorption process (29–31). Fluoride is applied to the root surface of avulsed teeth to reduce root resorption and ensure optimal healing (32). The IADT recom mended treating the root surface using 2.4% sodium fluoride for 5 min (33). In this case report, the root surfaces of avulsed teeth were replanted after treatment with 2.4% sodium fluoride for 5 min. Antibiotics are recommended after dental injuries, particularly avulsion injuries, to reduce the probability of infection-related reactions and the incidence of root resorption (34,35). The efficacy of tetracycline administrated after replantation and avulsion injury has been demonstrated in animal studies (35). However, the administration of tetracycline may cause discoloration in patients under 12 years of age.

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Due to the adverse effect of tetracycline, its administration in young patients is not recommended (36). In this case, a minocycline antibiotic was used because the patient was over 12 years of age. The IADT recommended that if mature teeth intruded 3–7 mm, the treatment choice is surgical (preferably) or orthodontic (37). Some authors have reported that surgical positioning may be preferred for the treatment option of intruded teeth (38,39). However, according to Andreasen, orthodontic repositioning treatment of intrudedluxation is better than surgical repositioning because the possibility of undesirable postoperative complications such as ankylosis, external root resorption, and loss of marginal bone increases due to surgical repositioning (40). Despite the possibility of these complications, Cunha et al. (41) reported in animal studies that rapid replantation shows good healing in permanent teeth with completed root development. However, it has been reported that these com plications also occur in cases with orthodontic positioning (42). Patient cooperation is an important factor, as treating intrusive teeth with orthodontic positioning needs a long time. In the present case, surgical repositioning was the treatment of choice to accelerate treatment. If intrusive luxation occurs in mature teeth, the pulp commonly becomes necrotic. Therefore, endodontic treatment of intruded teeth should begin immediately, and intracanal medicaments such as Ca(OH)2 should be used (37). The aim of using intracanal medicaments is to reduce complications such as inflammatory external root resorption (37,43). The IADT recommended Ca(OH)2 paste as an intracanal medicament until 1 month in the avulsion cases (11). Therefore, in this case report, Ca(OH)2 paste was used as a dressing in the left incisors. Although no radiological or clinical abnormality was observed in the follow-up period, it should be kept in mind that these complications may occur in the long term. Therefore, longterm follow-up periods are needed in these cases.

CONCLUSIONS

Treatment protocols applied in avulsion and intrusion in juries are important in terms of prognosis. For this reason, dentists should follow up-to-date treatment protocols

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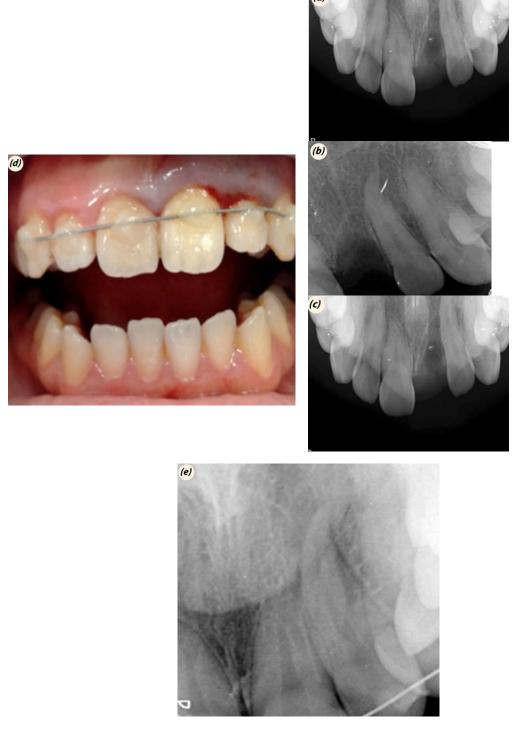


Fig. 1. Intraoral image taken after the accident in our clinic (a). Occlusal and periapical radiograph taken after 48 h of the accident: avulsed maxillary left incisor and intruded maxillary left lateral incisor (b, c). Periapical radiograph and clinical view of maxillary left incisors (d, e).

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Fig. 2. Periapical radiograph demonstrating root canal treatment (a). Clinic view of maxillary left incisor two week later (b).

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