Dentomaxillofacial Radiology (2016) 45, 20160238

birpublications.org/dmfr

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Early prediction of maxillary canine impaction: number doubts

Dentomaxillofacial Radiology (2016) **45**, 20160238. doi: 10.1259/dmfr.20160238

Cite this article as: Fehlberg TP, da Silveira HLD. Early prediction of maxillary canine impaction: number doubts. *Dentomaxillofac Radiol* 2016; **45**: 20160238.

After reading an interesting article entitled "Early Prediction of Maxillary Canine Impaction" in the March 2016 issue of *Dentomaxillofacial Radiology*,[1] we had a few doubts we would like to share with the authors: in the section "Methods and Materials", we were somehow confused about the final sample. In the second paragraph, it is stated that the final sample consisted of "…116 untreated patients with unilateral canine impaction at T_2". However, in the fourth paragraph, the authors reported that 30 subjects from the test data set "…were selected from the 86 remaining records that displayed bilateral maxillary canine eruption at T_2…". We wondered where did these patients come from?

We would also like to see a table with the comparison between quantitative measurements at T_2 canine impaction *vs* non-impaction to help us understand some of the values at T_2 presented in the second paragraph of the "Results" section. It seems a little bit strange for us that the angle between the canine and the lateral incisor diminished at T_2 on the impacted side (−13°) and increased on the non-impacted side, but the position of the canine related to the midline remained the same.

Literature shows us, in an impaction situation, lateral incisors with distal crown tipping.[2] Also it is expected, in spontaneous eruption, that the canine position is less inclined at this age (T_2).[3] In view of the above, it would be extremely gratifying to have a response to better understand this article.

Tanara P Fehlberg and Heraldo L D da Silveira
Surgery and Orthopaedics Department, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil

References

1. Alqerban A, Storms AS, Voet M, Fieuws S, Willems G. Early prediction of maxillary canine impaction. *Dentomaxillofac Radiol* 2016; **45**: 20150232. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1259/dmfr.20150232
2. Ericson S, Kurol J. Longitudinal study and analysis of clinical supervision of maxillary canine eruption. *Community Dent Oral Epidemiol* 1986; **14**: 172–6. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1600-0528.1986.tb01526.x
3. Alessandri Bonetti G, Zanarini M, Danesi M, Parenti SI, Gatto MR. Percentiles relative to maxillary permanent canine inclination by age: a radiologic study. *Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop* 2009; **136**: 486.e1–6; discussion 486–7. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ajodo.2009.01.022

Correspondence to: Dr Heraldo Luis Dias da Silveira. E-mail: heraldo.silveira@ufrgs.br
(The editors do not hold themselves responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents)

Received 6 June 2016; accepted 4 July 2016