



Case report

Dentigerous cyst associated with a supernumerary tooth in the nasal cavity:
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ABSTRACT

There have been some reports concerning supernumerary teeth located in the maxilla; however, eruption into the nasal cavity leading to a dentigerous cyst is quite rare. The authors report a 6-year-old boy who was noticed to have a foreign body in the right nasal cavity during a school physical examination. There was no subjective nasal symptom, such as bleeding or a feeling of rhinostenosis. On radiological examination, a tooth-like radiopaque object was noted beneath the surface of the right nasal floor, and part of a supernumerary tooth in the left maxillary incisor area was also seen. Ectopic supernumerary teeth were diagnosed and removed under general anesthesia. Histopathological examination identified the tooth-like structure as a mature tooth, and the isolated tissue in the nasal cavity was coated by soft tissue, confirmed as a feature of a cyst.

Three years after surgery, the patient was doing well and had healed uneventfully.

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1. Introduction

The ectopic eruption of teeth occurs in a variety of locations in the oral cavity. Erupting into the maxillofacial sinus, mandibular condyle, coronoid process and palate has been reported. Eruption of teeth into the nasal cavity is uncommon. The first case of eruption of teeth into the nasal cavity was reported by Albinus in 1754 [1]. The majority of cases show significant morbidity such as epistaxis, paranasal sinusitis, nasal abscess, and nasal oral fistula.

Most cases of intranasal teeth involve a single tooth in the unilateral nose. Inverted teeth in the nasal cavity may originate from an aberration of the regular dentition or can be supernumerary. Intranasal teeth are supernumerary, deciduous, or permanent.

An intranasal tooth which forms a dentigerous cyst is quite rare. This paper reports a case of double supernumerary teeth, one supernumerary in the right nasal cavity and surrounded by a dentigerous cyst, and a supernumerary tooth located in the left premaxilla incisor region.

2. Case report

A 6-year-old boy was introduced to the Department of Otolaryngology of Otsu Red Cross Hospital Japan for intensive examination because he was noticed to have a foreign body in the right nasal cavity at the time of physical examination in his elementary school. Endoscopic examination was performed, and a hard, tooth-like object was found slightly above the right nasal floor (Fig. 1A). He was referred to our department for specific treatment.

There was no subjective nasal symptom such as bleeding or rhinostenosis. On inspection, a tooth-like structure covered with the nasal mucosa and protruding into the right nasal floor was visible. The surface of the surrounding mucous membrane was smooth, and no abnormal findings were seen. On intra-oral examination, Hellman's Dental Stage II A was present, and neither tooth avulsion nor loss of a milk tooth was revealed.

On upper occlusal and panoramic radiography, a tooth-like radiopaque object situated in the vicinity of the right nasal floor was demonstrated (Fig. 1A and C). Furthermore, a tooth-like radiopaque object in the left premaxilla incisor region was also shown. There was no lack of the permanent tooth germ. The left incisor was slightly lower in comparison with the right incisor. Computed tomography (CT) scan confirmed an about 10 mm × 12 mm tooth-like radiopaque object in the right nasal floor and a 7 mm × 12 mm incisor in the left palate (Fig. 2A and B). It also showed on about

[☆] Asian AOMS: Asian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons; ASOMP: Asian Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology; JSOP: Japanese Society of Oral Pathology; JSOMS: Japanese Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons; JSOM: Japanese Society of Oral Medicine; JAMI: Japanese Academy of Maxillofacial Implants.

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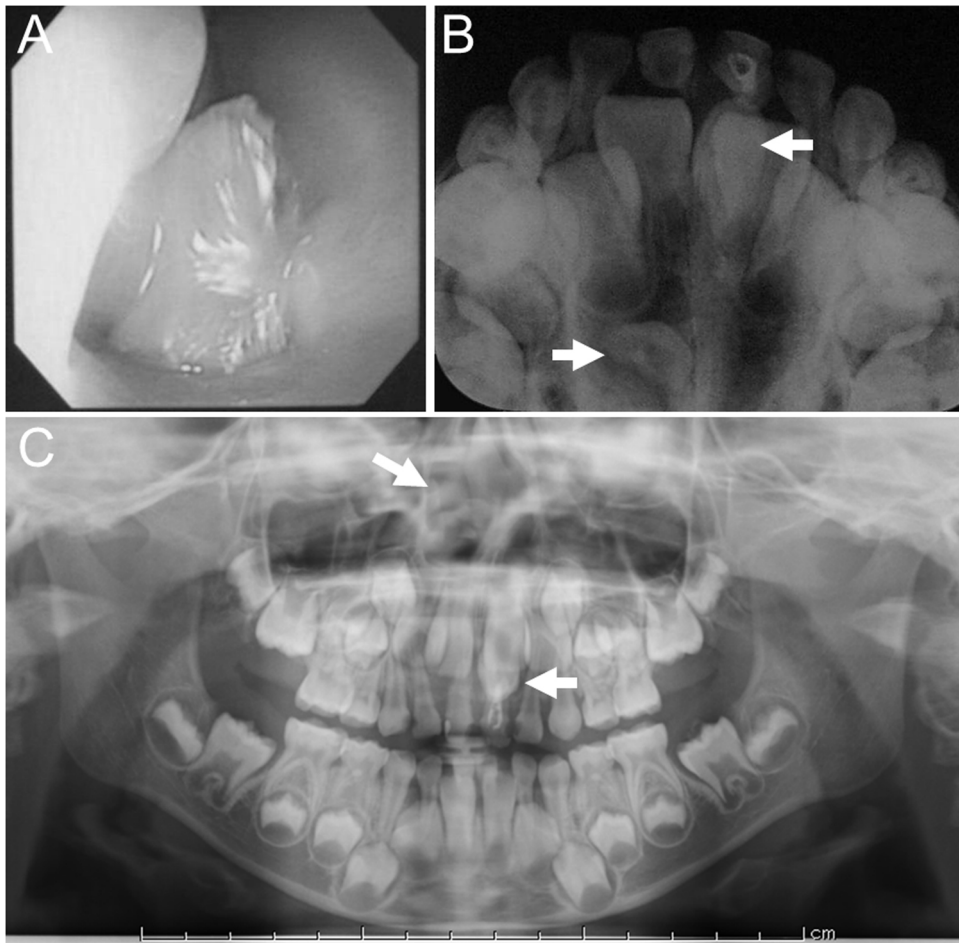


Fig. 1. (A) Endoscopic photography showing a tooth-like structure covered with the nasal mucosa in the right nasal floor. The surface properties of the surrounding mucous membrane were smooth. (B) Maxillary occlusal radiograph showing two radiopaque tooth-like structures. (C) Panoramic dental radiograph clearly demonstrating tooth-like radiopaque objects in the nasal cavity on the palatal side of that left incisor.

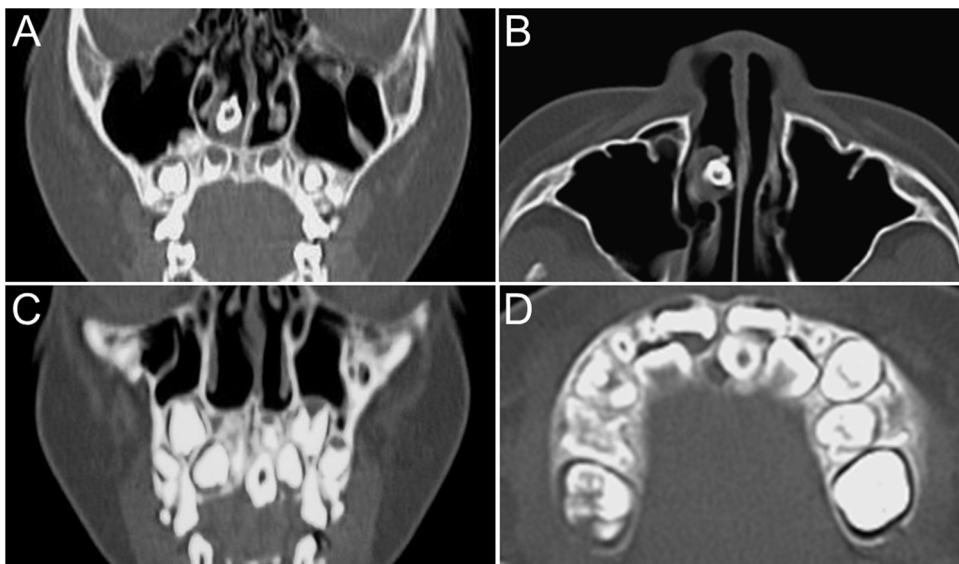


Fig. 2. (A) Coronal computed tomography (CT) of the paranasal sinuses showing a tooth-like radiopaque object in the right nasal floor. (B) Axial CT with a tooth-like radiopaque object in the right nasal cavity showing the mass surrounded by a cystic region. (C) Coronal CT of the anterior teeth region showing a tooth-like radiopaque object on the palatal side of the left incisor. (D) Axial CT with a tooth-like radiopaque object on the palatal side of the left incisor.

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