

# EVALUATION OF ABUTMENT TEETH IN FIXED PARTIAL DENTURE- A RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE PATIENT RECORDS

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## Abstract

*One of the most frequent iatrogenic mishaps during root canal treatment of posterior teeth is perforation of the pulpal floor during access opening/biomechanical preparation. It leads to an open communication between the root canal system and the supporting tissues of the tooth leading to formation of serous exudates, sinus at the site of perforation if left untreated. The development of different techniques and newer materials has led to success in perforation repairs. The main objective of this study was to evaluate perforation repair in furcal involving maxillary molars in patients under 50 years of age. The current study is an institutional based retrospective study performed over reviewing 86,000 case records. A total of 14 subjects who underwent furcal perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars under 50 years of age were chosen for the study out of 6475 subjects who had undergone root canal treatment in various teeth. Patients with other than perforation repairs and medically compromised were excluded. Once the data was obtained, analysis was done by descriptive and inferential statistics using SPSS by IBM version 20. From this current study, it was found that, out of 14 patients, 9 males(64.29%) and 5 females(35.71%) have undergone perforation repair treatment. Highest incidence of perforation repair was seen in tooth number 26 (42.86%). Patients in the age group of 41-50 years had the highest incidence of perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars. Adequate knowledge, experience and clinical skill enables good management of furcal perforations.*

**KEYWORDS :** Furcation , Maxillary, Molars, Perforation repair

## I. Introduction

The variations in root canal anatomy of multirooted teeth are a constant challenge for diagnosis and successful endodontic management. The maxillary molar has been reported with various root canal anatomy having four roots [1], two roots, and even a single root with a single canal[2]. The prevalence of a single canal in the maxillary molar is reported to be 0.5-0.6% [3]. Furcal perforation consists of communication between the pulp cavity and the periodontal tissues. They are one of the most challenging causes of endodontic failures [4].

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This complication may be caused by iatrogenic or non iatrogenic factors and can occur in permanent as well as primary teeth. Iatrogenic causes include perforation during either access opening or during root canal instrumentation, while the non iatrogenic factors include progressive internal resorption or caries process development [5]. Calcification of the pulp chamber and the orifices, misidentification of the canals, significant crown-root angulations and excessive removal of coronal dentin can easily result in perforation of the coronal or furcation regions. Strip perforation of the middle third may occur if there is overzealous instrumentation [6]. The consequences of the perforation depends on the size, location and period of impairment, leading to inflammatory reactions and compromising the periodontal tissue irreversibly, resulting in tooth loss [7].

Diagnosis of the perforations are important. If left undiagnosed, it can lead to further complications [8]. Iatrogenic perforations are invariably identified by the profuse bleeding that follows by the injury. Apex locators are also very useful in detecting the perforations. Late diagnosis of the pathological perforations is largely a combination of clinical assessment, nature of the presenting complaint and radiographs. Untreated perforations may be revealed by the presence of serous exudates or sinus from the site of perforation, severity to the periodontium and chronic inflammation[9].

Therefore either sealing the perforated site with a biocompatible material or by using surgical technique is necessary to promote the repair of the perforated area. Several materials have been suggested for repair of furcal perforations such as amalgam, gutta percha, cavit, composite resin, MTA, glass ionomer cement, calcium hydroxide [10,11] [12]. The ideal material should be non-toxic and biocompatible in order to have a good outcome. Pro root MTA has an alkaline PH of 5 and studies have shown that its performance in microleakage protection is superior to amalgam, IRM and biodentine [13]. It is biocompatible and thus considered an ideal material for conservative treatment of furcal perforations [14].

The frequency of furcal perforation has been reported to range from 3% to as high as 10% [15]. However as complex endodontic procedures are being performed, there is likely a high chance in the increase of the perforation percentage in the future. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the incidence of perforation repair in furcation involving maxillary molars in patients under 50 years of age based on institutional dental records.

## **II. MATERIALS AND METHODS:**

### **Study Setting**

The current study is an institutional based retrospective study performed at a private dental college.

### **Ethical approval**

The necessary approvals were obtained from the Institutional Ethical committee - SDC/SIHEC/2020/DIASDATA/0619-0320.

### **Data Collection and Tabulation**

All the case records and treatment records were obtained from the patient management software and the data collected was cross verified by an examiner to avoid any missing case records. A total of 86,000 case sheets were verified for root canal treatment data and in which 6475 subjects have undergone root canal treatment in various teeth. Out of 6475 cases, 14 subjects who underwent perforation repair in relation to maxillary molar under 50 years of age were chosen carefully verifying the data and history. All the data collected was formatted and tabulated using Microsoft Excel (Version - 2020). The dependent variable was furcal perforation during endodontic therapy.

### Inclusion criteria

The Inclusion criteria was patients under 50 years undergoing root canal treatment with furcal perforation in relation to maxillary molars

### Exclusion criteria

The exclusion criteria was missing or incomplete data and also eliminated cases that were not approved by the concerned faculty in the hospital.

### Statistical analysis

The statistical analysis was performed using IBM SPSS (Version - 24). Descriptive statistics was performed to present the age distribution, gender distribution of patients and the tooth involved. Chi square test was done, to associate between age groups and tooth groups.

## III. RESULTS:

In the present study which included 14 patients, 64.29% (9) males and 35.71% (5) females have undergone perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars (Figure 1). The most common tooth group with furcal perforation and repair was found to be in 26 (42.86%), which was followed by 16 (28.57%) and the least being both 17 and 27 (14.29%) (Figure 2). Out of 14 patients who had undergone perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars, the age group commonly identified were of 41-50 years (57.14%), which was followed by 31-40 years (28.57%) and the least being in the age group of 20-30 years (14.29%) (Figure 3). Patients in the age group of 41-50 years, the frequency of perforation repairs seen in 26 was (14.29%), 16 (14.29%), 17 and 27 (7.14%). Patients in the age group of 31-40 years, the frequency of perforation repairs seen in 16, 17, 26, 27 was (7.14%). Patients in the age group of 20-30 years, the frequency of perforation repairs were seen in 16 and 26 with (7.14%). Results show the highest incidence of perforation repairs was seen in the age group of 41-50 years in 26 (28.57%) compared to other age groups (Figure 4). No significant association was seen between age groups and tooth groups. Chi-square test was performed and was found to be statistically not significant ( $p = 0.916$ ;  $p > 0.05$ ).

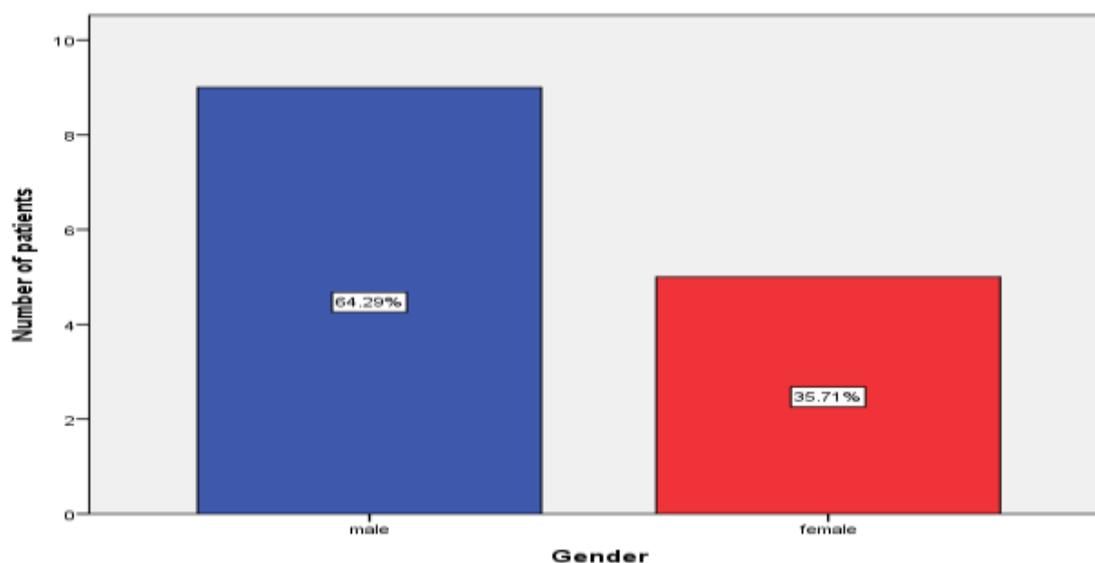


Figure 1: Bar graph depicts the frequency of males and females who had undergone perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars. X axis represents the gender of patients and Y axis shows the number of patients undergone

perforation repair. The results show the highest number subjected to perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars was seen in males (blue) 64.29% compared to females (red) 35.71%.

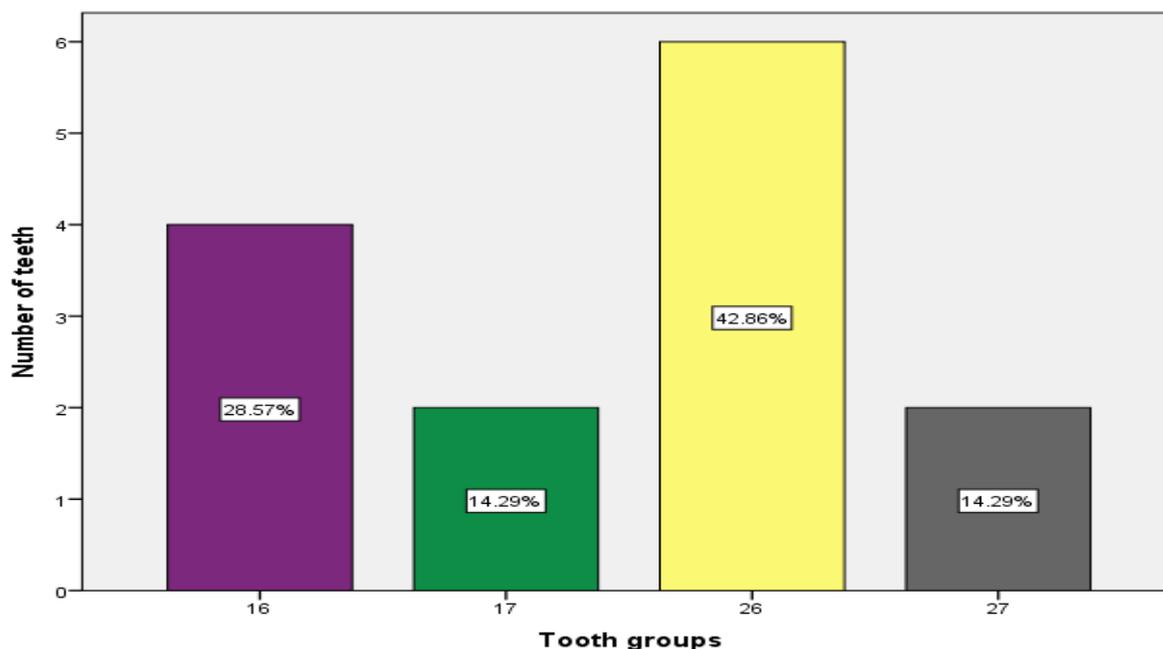


Figure 2: Bar graph depicts the frequency of various tooth groups involved in perforation repair. X axis shows the various tooth groups involved in perforation repair and Y axis shows the number of teeth. The results show the highest incidence of perforation repair was seen in 26 with 42.86% (yellow).

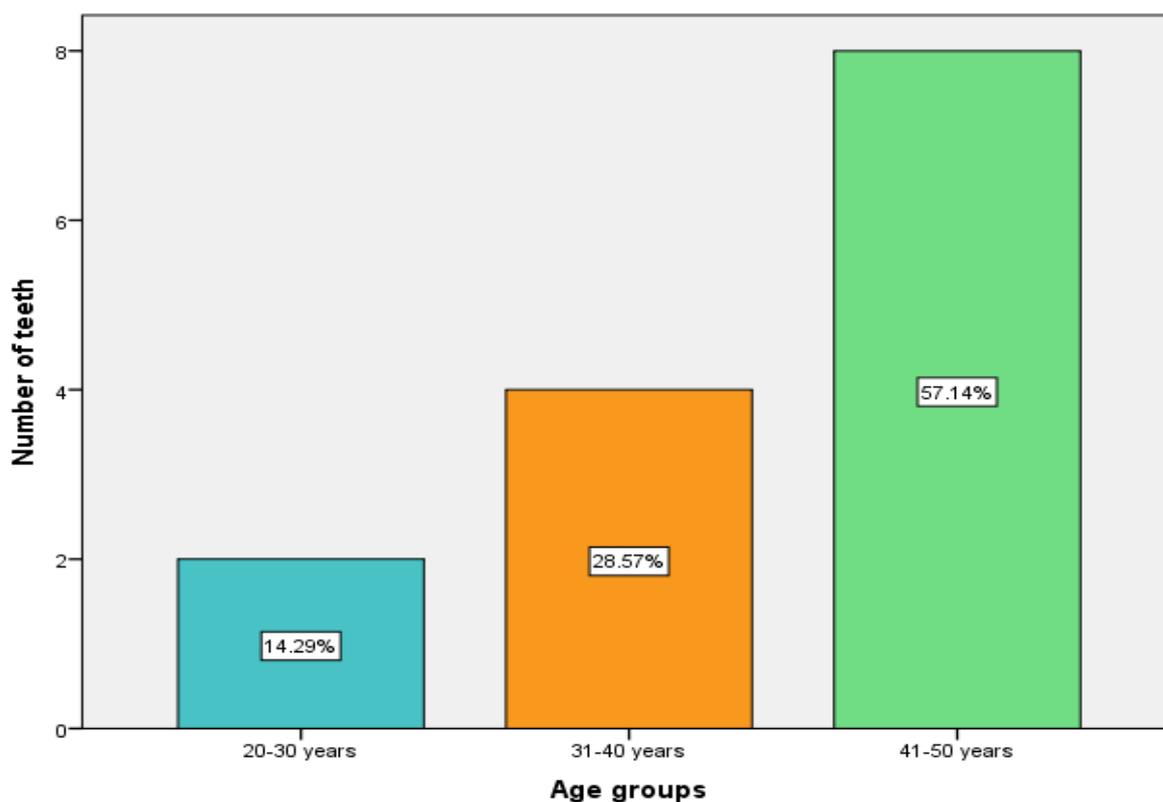


Figure 3: Bar graph depicts the frequency distribution of age groups involved in perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars. X axis shows the various age groups involved in perforation repair in relation to maxillary

molars; Y axis shows the number of teeth. The results show that the perforation repair was common in the age group of 41-50 years with 57.14% (light green).

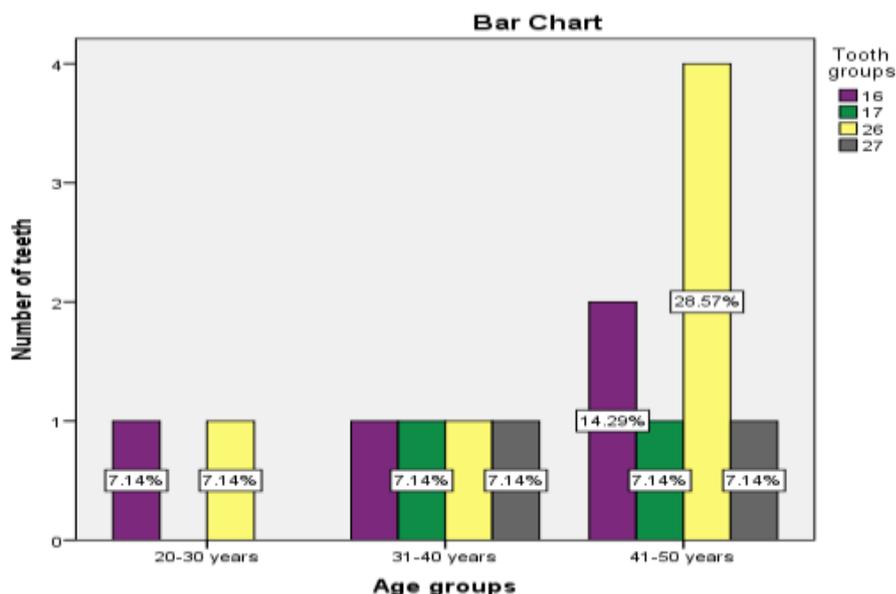


Figure 4: Bar graph depicts the association between various age groups and teeth involved with perforations. X axis represents the various age groups and Y axis shows the number of teeth. Chi-square test was performed and there was no statistically significant association between age groups and tooth groups (Pearson chi square value: 2.042; df:6; p-value: 0.916 > 0.05). However, perforation repair was common among the age group of 41-50 years in relation to 26 (28.57%, yellow).

#### IV. DISCUSSION:

Perforation sealing is a fundamental treatment to avoid tooth loss, as it eliminates or prevents inflammatory reaction around adjacent tissues and consequent bone resorption, swelling, suppuration and pain [16]. From the results obtained in this study, 64.29% of males and 35.71% of females had undergone perforation repair in relation to maxillary molars under 50 years of age of which the most common teeth for perforation repair was found to be 26 (42.9%). It was also seen that patients in the age group of 41-50 years had the highest incidence for undergoing perforation repair.

Besides effective perforation sealing, there are other factors that may influence the success rate of the treatment, such as the size of the perforation, extensive internal and per-operative radiolucent lines adjacent to the perforation. In a study conducted by Kvinnsland et al., 53% of furcal perforations occur during insertion of posts, the remaining occur during routine endodontic procedures [17]. In multi rooted teeth, furcation perforations may occur whilst searching for the canal orifices, as the dentin is removed from the pulpal floor.

Late diagnosis and sealing treatment, seems to induce unfavorable diagnosis. Delay in perforation sealing impairs the repair by increasing the risk of contamination. However the immediate sealing of the perforation using biocompatible material reveals clinical and radiographic success. Due to the paucity of reports evaluating long term clinical outcomes in furcal perforations, evidence based data are not available yet for support[18].

Perforation repair requires proper knowledge regarding the size, site, time and various materials that are used thereby to achieve a long term success of the perforated tooth. However when the perforation is located on the buccal or palatal aspect, the radiographic tool becomes a scarce diagnostic aid. The use of apex locators help to accurately determine the location of the root perforations, making them more reliable than the radiographs.

Dental operating microscopes enhance the visibility of perforation in a magnified field. It helps in locating even smaller perforation sites so that it can be treated earlier, preventing future infection [19]. Stem cell based tissue regeneration for furcation repair and through biomimetic approach, it will have the potential to open a new era and strategy in endodontic tissue engineering therapy [20,21]. Previously our team had conducted numerous clinical trials [22–24], in vitro studies [25–29] and surveyed [30,31] and reviewed various aspects of endodontics and conservative dentistry over the past five years [32–35] [36]. Now we are focusing on retrospective studies, the idea for which has stemmed from the current interest in our community.

## **V. CONCLUSION:**

Within the limitations of the study, it was concluded that perforation repair in furcal involving maxillary molars were identified most commonly in tooth number 26. Among the patients who had perforation repair, majority of the patients were male patients and patients in the age group of 41-50 years. The age of the patient did not influence the tooth involved in perforation repair. With regards to the instrumentation, knowledge about the anatomy should be taken into consideration in order to prevent procedural mishaps. The development in technology, advanced armamentarium, and expertise enable successful management of furcal perforations.

## **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION**

Roghith Kannan carried out the retrospective study, collection and analysis of data and drafted the manuscript. Dr Adimulapu Hima Sandeep designed the study and participated in data analysis verification and drafting the manuscript. Dr Revathi D aided in supervision and appraisal of the manuscript.

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## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No conflict of Interest

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