DENTAL REHABILITATION OF CLEFT LIP AND PALATE: WHAT HAPPENS TO THE LATERAL INCISOR?

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Objective: This study analyzed the maintenance of lateral incisors in the rehabilitation of individuals with clefts. Material and Methods: The study retrospective analyzed all panoramic and periapical radiographs available of individuals with non-syndromic complete unilateral cleft lip and palate, from the first to the last close to 12 years of age. Overall, 2,826 records were reviewed to achieve a sample of 1,000 individuals, among which 487 presented permanent lateral incisors on both cleft (CS) and non-cleft sides (NCS), who were assessed in this study. The results were evaluated by percentages and descriptive statistics. Results: The association between maintenance of lateral incisor and timing of alveolar bone graft was analyzed by the t test. Among individuals, 265 had not completed treatment, 62 presented insufficient information and 44 concluded treatment elsewhere. Among the remaining 116, the lateral incisor was extracted in 88 (75.86%) on CS and 23 (19.83%) on NCS. The timing of alveolar bone graft was significantly associated with maintenance of lateral incisor on CS (p<0.01). Most extractions were due to inadequate positioning on CS and for midline correction on the NCS. Rehabilitation was primarily completed by orthodontic movement (53 on CS and 13 on NCS). Conclusion: The lateral incisor on the CS was not maintained in most individuals. There was positive relationship between extraction of lateral incisor and timing of alveolar bone graft, suggesting the need to anticipate the initial evaluation to allow its maintenance and reduce the burden of care.