

A STUDY OF 1684 IMPACTED THIRD MOLARS IN MAKKAH

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INTRODUCTION:

Impacted third molars are major problem in modern dentistry. Although many impacted teeth may remain symptom free throughout life, they are a potential source of trouble and their early removal is generally recommended.

The surgical removal of impacted third molars can result in considerable difficulties and complications(1). These difficulties and complications may be overcome by diagnosing the obstacles preoperatively and planning the operation(2).

The purpose of this study is to report the incidence, characteristics and possible complications of impacted third molars.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

A series of 1684 of impacted third molars with their radiographs were collected from the Oral and Maxillofacial Department of El-Noor Specialized Hospital and King Abd El-Aziz Hospital of the Holy Makkah of the Kingdom of Saudia Arabia during 1990-1992.

The minimum age of the individuals was fifteen years and the maximum was forty years. From these data, Figures on the incidence, angulation, age and sex of patients with impacted third molars were derived.

The pathological findings and complications associated with the impacted third molars in the collected data were classified into :

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