

Affection and treatment of teeth

- **Congenital Abnormalities**

- **1.** Abnormal number of teeth:

- • Uncommon congenital condition associated with splitting of dental bud.

- • Supernumerary incisors and molars are most frequently seen.

- • There may be one or two extra teeth or complete double rows of incisors and molars may be present (Dental crowding).

- • **Clinical Signs:**

- – Not apparent until malocclusion occurs and the tooth grows up into the soft palate or cause ulceration of the tongue.

- • Treatment:

- – If tooth is loose the extraction can be performed otherwise,

- – Tooth rasping should be indicated at regular interval

- **Congenital Abnormalities**

- **2.** Irregularities in the shedding of temporary teeth:

- – May persist for longer period and in turn delay the eruption of permanent teeth or

- may alter their direction.

- **3.** Abnormal position and direction of teeth:

- – **When the teeth grow in an abnormal direction, they fail to come in contact with their**

- **counterpart in the opposite jaw.**

- – This causes lack of wear and teeth become excessively long causing injury to soft

- **tissue to which they come in contact.**

- **I.** Brachynathism (Parrot mouth): A congenital deformity in which upper
- jaw is longer than lower. Due to this defect, the teeth are not in contact for
- wear and they become elongated and lower incisors may injure the soft
- tissue of upper jaw. Animal with this defect feels difficulty in grazing and
- prehension of foods.

- **Treatment** : Lower elongated incisors should be periodically shortened.

- **Congenital Abnormalities**
- **II. Prognatism** (Pig/Sow mouth or undershot): In this condition, the lower jaw
 - is longer than the upper and inferior incisors extend beyond the superior incisors teeth. A common condition of dog and occasionally seen
 - in horse.
- **Treatment:** It consist of shortening of superior incisor teeth.
- **III. Parvinathism** (Scissor mouth or shear mouth): Congenital deformity, in
 - which uupper and lower cheek teeth fail to meet properly on one side.
 - This condition develop because of sensitive cheek tooth in the opposite arcade. It is the serious defect in horse that prevent the lateral movement
 - of the teeth and seriously interfered with mastication.
- **Treatment:** The beveled portion of the cheek teeth must be removed and
 - removal can be made by the use of molar cutters. In advance case it is
 - necessary to remove the deformed teeth as close to gum.

Irregular and sharp molars

- **Common clinical condition** in cattle, buffalo and horses and often seen in camels.
- The sharpness is seen on the outer border of the upper molars and inner border of lower molars.
- Last molars are more predisposed.

Etiology:

- Upper jaw is more wider than lower jaw and inner border of the lower molars extend beyond the tables of the opposing teeth .
- Under normal condition, there is more or less uniform wear of the tables because **of side to side movement of the jaw during mastication.**
- The side to side movement of the jaw is restricted due to weakness of masseter muscles, painful lesions in the mouth. Then, the wear becomes diminished and they become extra sharp.

- **Symptoms**

- – Sharp molars cause injury to the tongue and cheek (Ulcers),
- – Make lateral movement of the jaws difficult
- – Imperfect grinding of teeth
- – Pain on mastication
- – Animal hold the head to one side during chewing
- – Profuse salivation
- – On opening of mouth, food materials are accumulated between the
- cheeks

- **Treatment**

- – Anesthesia is not required however for viscious animals tranquilization should
- be done.
- – Make mouth open using mouth gag.
- – Clean the mouth thoroughly
- – Then introduced tooth rasp into the mouth after withdrawing and holding
- the tongue in the direction opposite to the side where rasping is to be done.
- – Apply firm and controlled strokes of rasping should be done over the sharp
- edges of tooth.
- – An emollient eg: glycerine may be applied in the oral cavity.
- – A secound rasping of the molar may be required after one week to achieve
- desired results.
- – If degree of irregularity is high than first cut the sharp projection by teeth
- cutter and the carry out rasping as above.

- **Dental Caries**

- • Uncommon in cattle and occasional cases are observed in buffaloes and camels.
- • **Clinical Signs:**
- • Salivation
- • Difficulty in mastication
- • Simple indigestion
- • Characteristic foul smelling can be experienced on examination of mouth.
- • Pain in lateral stage.
- • **Treatment:**
- • Under anesthesia affected tooth should be extracted
- • Followed by daily cleaning of the oral cavity with light potassium permanganate (1:1000).

- **Dental tumors**
- **1. ODONTOMA**
- – It is sporadically observed in cattle, buffalo and sheep.
- – The tumor may occupy a position anywhere in the mandible or maxilla
- but mostly the lower jaw is involved.
- – **Treatment:**
- • Curetting or chiseling out the tumorous growth under general anesthesia and
- closing the cavity
- • Bleeding is checked by cauterisation
- – Post operative management:
- • Irrigating the mouth with Potassium Permanganate solution
- • Administration of analgesics
- • Place the animal in soft diets

- **Dental tumors**
- **2. AMELOBLASTOMA**
- • The tumor arises from the odontogenic epithelial remnants but not
- form the ameloblasts.
- • It is common in cattle, sheep and buffalo
- • **Clinical signs:**
- – Animal feel difficulty in mastication and deglutition.
- • **Treatment:**
- – Similar to odontoma

- **Dental tumors**
- **3. Epulis**
 - – This tumour involves gingiva at the dental border or in interdental spaces.
 - – The growth is usually seen as longitudinal hard mass almost parallel to
 - **the cheek teeth.**
 - – Lower gingiva is commonly involved.
 - – Commonly seen in cattle, buffalo and camels.
 - • **Treatment:**
 - – Through dissection of tumor mass under general anesthesia.
 - – Diffuse bleeding is controlled by packing or cauterization.

- **Epulis**

- • Tumor involving gingiva at the dental border or in interdental spaces.
- • The growth is usually seen as a longitudinal hard mass
- **almost parallel to the cheek teeth.**
- • Lower gingiva is commonly involved.
- • It has been recorded in cattle, buffalo and camels.
- • **Treatment:**
- • Under general anesthesia the growth is removed by dissection.
- • Diffuse bleeding is controlled by packing or cauterization.