

PERIODONTAL MORPHOLOGY OF TEETH MOVED INTO GRAFTED ALVEOLAR CLEFT: A CBCT ASSESSMENT

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PURPOSE: the purpose of this research was to assess the periodontal morphology of the canine mesialized to the grafted region in patients with unilateral alveolar clefts with by measuring images of cone- beam computed tomography (CBCT) exams. **METHODS:** the sample comprised CBCT exams of 30 patients with unilateral cleft lip and/or palate during retention period after orthodontic comprehensive treatment. Buccal and lingual alveolar bone thickness of the canine in the clefted side (CF) were measured and compared to the canine (CsF) and lateral incisor in the non-cleft side (IL). To assess the buccal and lingual bone crest height, parassagittal slices were obtained passing through the center of the crown of each evaluated teeth. It was calculated the distance from the cemento-enamel junction (CEJ) to the buccal and lingual alveolar bone crest. The comparison among the CF values with the CsF and IL was performed with the paired t test or the Wilcoxon test, depending on the distribution of normality. **RESULTS:** the results showed that the buccal bone plate is thinner than the lingual bone plate in every tooth evaluated. When comparing the CF and the CsF, there was a statistically significant difference to the buccal alveolar bone thickness ($p=0,002$). When comparing the CF and IL, there was a statistically significant difference to the buccal alveolar bone thickness ($p=0,001$) and the lingual bone crest height ($p=0,000$). **CONCLUSION:** the mesialization of teeth to grafted alveolar bone in patients with clefts is a viable option under the periodontal and esthetical perception.

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