

INTRODUCTION

Endodontic treatment, in cases of **traumatic teeth with immature apex**, requires **special care**, due to anatomical particularities: **Wide root canal, little thickness of dentine walls, absence of apical constriction and apical divergence**.¹

Currently, there are several apexification techniques using calcium hydroxide, Mineral trioxide aggregate (MTA) or other materials based on calcium silicate, as well as regenerative endodontic treatments (RET).^{2,3,4}

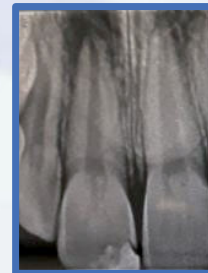
CASE APRESENTATION

Patient: Female, 8 years old, buccal fistula associated with tooth 11 and also discolored tooth.

Anamnesis: Parents reported a history of trauma a year and a half ago and dental phobia. Conventional behavioral control techniques and conscious sedation have already been done without success.

Diagnosis: pulp necrosis, chronic apical abscess and incomplete root formation.

Treatment Plan: apexification with an MTA apical plug (MAP), in a surgery room.



Picture 1. Inicial X-ray showing radiolucence around immature apex of UR1

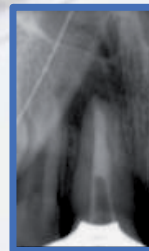
CLINICAL PROCEDURE

Already with patient in surgery, rubber dam isolation was done, removal of the infiltrated restoration and pre-endodontic restoration were placed as well as cavity access.

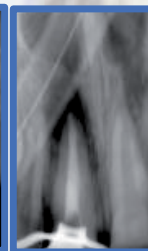
Debridement of the necrotic tissue was performed with #80 K file at working length, proceeding to permeabilization, conformation and cleaning of the root canal with irrigation NAOCL 5.25% + EDTA 17% + Alcohol 96%, with sonic activation of NAOCL.

Drying with sterile paper tips and placement of MTA (White Pro-Root MTA; Dentsply Maillefer, Ballaigues, Switzerland), at 1mm from working length, condensation with plugger at 5mm from CT. (Picture 2)

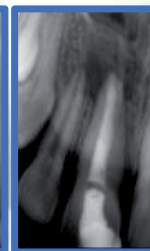
The Backfill technique was performed with B&L SuperEndo β[®] using AHPlus[®] cement. (picture 3) Ionoseal (Voco[®]) was used for intra-coronary sealing and Flow Composite composite provisionalization. (Picture 4)



Picture 2
MTA apical plug



Picture 3
Backfill



Picture 4
Final X-ray



Picture 5
Final photo

METHODS

The bibliographic survey was carried out by searching the PUBMED (National Institute of Health - NIH) and WEB OF SCIENCE databases. It were used as keywords in English / Portuguese, consulted in the MeSH vocabulary (Medical Subject Headings): apexification/apexificação; trauma/trauma; dental pulp necrosis/necrose da polpa dentária; mineral trioxide aggregate/agregado trióxido mineral; calcium hydroxide/hidróxido de cálcio.

DISCUSSION

The apexification technique using calcium hydroxide for a long period of time (6 months to 2 years) has been historically used, but several studies have shown that long term used on immature teeth weakens the root structure and causes tooth staining.²

In the other hand, MTA has a high potential in endodontic treatments due to its ability to induce the formation of mineralized tissue.^{5,6} Its sealing capacity, resistance to microleakage and the fact that it can be used in a humid environment or with the presence of blood, makes it suitable for use as an apical barrier in teeth with immature apex.⁷

Due to this fact, reducing the apexification time for a single session allows definitive restoration to be carried out briefly in order to achieve the coronary resistance, reducing the risk of fracture - many authors have suggested the apexification in a single session.⁸ In this case, apexification with MTA apical plug (MAP) was performed in the surgery room, due to the patient's phobia - previously, conventional behavioral control techniques and conscious sedation were performed, which were not effective for the treatments. In the 4-month follow-up, the patient is asymptomatic, with no clinical evidence of a fistula and the periapical radiograph shows signs of lesion regression. (Picture 6)



Picture 6
Follow-up after 4 months

CONCLUSION

There are several protocols to perform endodontic treatment on teeth with immature roots. The placement of an MTA apical barrier facilitates the achievement of an apical seal. **In patients with behavioral changes, apexification with an MTA plug offers high predictability in relation to apical sealing, allows for a reduction in the number of sessions as well as less dependence on the patient's collaboration.**

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