

ABSTRACT

Aim

To evaluate the prevalence of Ponticulus posticus in dental patients using CBCT.

Materials And Methods

In a series of 116 patients including 66 males and 50 females aged between 11 to 80 yrs attending the Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology were advised CBCT for various reasons such as orthodontic treatment, implants, patients with chronic neck and head pain and TMJ disorders. Detailed examination of the patient including cervicogenic pain was recorded. Intensity of pain was assessed using Visual Analog scale. Unpaired Students' t' test was used to test the significance of association between incidence of Ponticulus Posticus and quantitative variables and Yate's or Fisher's chi square test for qualitative variables. A 'p' value less than 0.05 was taken to denote significant difference.

Results

CBCT examination revealed 15 patients positive for PP giving a result of 12.9% as prevalence of PP. the prevalence of PP was more common in the age group of 11 to 20 years (33.3%) and the next common age group was 21 to 30 years (22.2%).

Conclusion

This study suggests the prevalence of PP is higher than previously believed and PP is a common anomaly. CBCT is an important tool for diagnosis and characterisation of PP in three dimensional views, providing professionals with access to excellent image quality and greater diagnostic accessory and sensitivity.

Key words

Ponticulus posticus, CBCT, Cervicogenic pain