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## 05 Dental Treatment of Marfan Syndrome. With regard to a case

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### 32 Abstract

33 Marfan syndrome is the most common dominant autosomic genetic disorder of the connective tissue. It has a  
 34 reported incidence of 1 per each 5000 individuals without any distinction of gender or ethnicity. This pathology's  
 35 diagnosis is mainly based on physical characteristics, presenting three main different symptomatic charts: neona-  
 36 tal Marfan, infant Marfan and classical Marfan. The mayor characteristic of these patients consists of an exagger-  
 37 ated length of the upper and lower limbs, hyperlaxity, scoliosis, alterations in the cardiovascular and pulmonary  
 38 systems and atypical bone overgrowth. The individual implied in the present investigation concerned to a 14 year  
 39 old male patient presenting multiple mouth lesions and dental alterations, attended in the Department of Pediatric  
 40 Dentistry degree at the Dentistry School in the Santa Maria University. The patient has been treated following the  
 41 necessary considerations required according to his systemic compromise d under oral premedication for decrease  
 42 the anxiety and make easear the behavior management. The patirnt with MS has multiple oral decrease that may  
 43 be diagnoticated a treated on time to increase the life quality of the patient.

45 **Key words:** *Marfan syndrome, dental management, oral premedication, patients with special needs.*

### 48 Introduction

49 Marfan Syndrome (MS) was firstly described by the  
 50 pediatrician Antoine Bernard-Jean Marfan who re-  
 51 ported an out of proportioned length of the lower limbs  
 52 and fingers (1). The MS is a dominant autosomic genetic  
 53 disorder which affects the elastic fibers of the connec-  
 54 tive tissue, showing itself in those systems/organs hold-  
 55 ing it, such as the cardiovascular, skeletal, dura mater,

ocular, skin, teguments and lung (2, 3). This is mainly  
 caused of mutations in the fibrilin glycoprotein's codi-  
 fied gene -1 located in the chromosome 15q21 (1,4).  
 It has been described that the normal fibrilin inhibits  
 the growth of the long bones and elastic fibers, through  
 its tension control the growth of these, because of it,  
 at these structures being altered, an exaggerated bone  
 overgrowth is produced that better characterizes this

01 decease (2). This condition represents an incidence of 1  
02 per each 5000/9800 individuals without any gender or  
03 ethnic distinction (1,-4).

04 MS is a multi-systemic disorder with typical manifes-  
05 tations which affect the skeletal, cardiovascular and  
06 ocular systems. On a skeletal level, an out of propor-  
07 tioned overgrowth of the long bones is observed which  
08 is frequently considered to be the most highlighted and  
09 evident feature. Nevertheless, other signs like pectum  
10 scavatum, scoliosis, articular hipermovility and flat  
11 foot may be presented. The cardiovascular pathology  
12 most frequently presented is the dilatation of the as-  
13 cending aorta on the aortic sinuses level. These lesions  
14 constitute the main cause of mobility and mortality for  
15 patients with MS. The ocular system has been shown  
16 to be generally affected with a dislocation of the lens,  
17 however, several other pathologies can be developed  
18 such as cataracts or glaucoma (3,4).

19 A narrow cranium is present on the craniofacial area,  
20 with dolichocephaly features, deep palatal, jammed  
21 teeth, retrognathia or micrognathia, flat molars and de-  
22 scendant palpebral fissures. This type of paladar may  
23 cause a posterior cross bite. Also, the maxilar hypoplasia  
24 generally cause dental crowded. Westling et al. raise  
25 that crowded teeth is due to an increased overjet or an  
26 open bite (5,6). Dental structures may have hipoplastic  
27 stains with a higher prevalence than the rest of the  
28 population. This enamel defects plus the higiene deficit  
29 increase the caries incidence on these patients. It's com-  
30 mun the roots may have distortion, pulpoliths and pulp  
31 obliterations. Bauss et al. (7) evaluated 21 rx of patients  
32 with MS and determinated that 20,7% presented pul-  
33 poliths and 7,9% pulpar obliterations. These anomalies  
34 may be considered at the time of endodontics treatment  
35 (7,8). The gingival and calculus index had a significant  
36 increased without many local irritants, with loss of gin-  
37 gival insertation and bone (9). Temporomandibular al-  
38 terations are more prevalent because an articular defor-  
39 mation and ligament hiperlaxity. These damages may  
40 cause an articular block during a wide mouth open, pain  
41 during chewing or mouth opening click (10).

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### 43 **Clinical Case**

44 A 14 year old male patient was treated in Department  
45 of Pediatric Dentistry degree at the Dentistry School  
46 in the Santa Maria University. At the time of ques-  
47 tioning the patient's representative about his personal  
48 history(patient's), she argued that he is the youngest of 4  
49 apparently healthy brothers, resulting from a controlled  
50 pregnancy, of which the parents were 34 and 36 years  
51 old at the time of gestation. With regard to the patient's  
52 medical background, his mother affirms that the young  
53 was diagnosed with Marfan Syndrome, dilatation in the  
54 aorta's base and subluxation of the crystals, plus, the  
55 teenager has been surgically intervened in three differ-

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ent occasions, because of 2 birth inguinal hernias at the  
time he was 9 months old, from tonsils and adenoids (3  
years old) and an elongation of the calcaneus on the left  
foot respectively.

After the data collection corresponding the clinical his-  
tory and the appropriate signature from the representa-  
tive concerning to her informed consent, in compliance  
with the ethical rules of the institution, a clinical exam  
was carried out.

For the physical examination, a seize of 1,80 cm. range  
was determined from upper to average (Fig. 1) In the  
extra-oral examination, some syndrome-typical fea-  
tures were observed, such as an elongated/narrowed  
cranium or docichocephalism and very elongated limbs.  
Intra-orally, a very deep palatal was observed, Class II  
molar relationship by Angle and lack of space for all of  
the dental structures for which the incisive upper later-  
als were palatinized in relation to the centrals. Like-  
wise, a presence of a generalized gingivitis associated  
to the dentobacterial plate and cavities in the 1.6 and 2.6  
was observed. Furthermore, on a radiographical level,  
radicular cysts with radicular dilacerations between the  
4.5 and 4.6 and agenesis for the second and third lower  
molars were present (Fig. 2, 3).

The dental treatment was performed under local an-  
esthetic using a maximun of 2 carpuls with vasocon-  
strictor because of the cardiovascular pathology. It con-  
sisted in the placement of a resin in the 1.6, a realization  
of an endodontic treatment on the 2.6 level with a pos-  
terior re-establishment, tartrectomy and exodoncy of



**Fig. 1.** Physical Characteristics of Marfan Syndrome.  
The long extremities are evident.



**Fig. 2.** Intraoral aspect. Front side. A gingivitis with dental plaque is observed. Also a severe malocclusion.



**Fig. 3.** Lateral incisor are not lining up because of the little transverse development of the maxillar.

the radicular rest. All of these procedures were carried out following a 2g amoxicillin antibiotic prophylaxis intake, which was taken one hour prior to the medical visit, due to the patient's cardiac pathology. The patient received an oral premedication of 5 mg diazepam the night before and one hour before the treatment to decrease anxiety. Subsequently, the patient was sent to the Orthodontic's Department for the proper evaluation and occlusion's treatment.

### Discussion

Marfan Syndrome is a dominant autosomic disorder of the connective tissue, as which Shiley et al affirm (1) presents a multisystemic affection as being part of one of the syndrome's main problems, the affectionation of the skeletal system. On the other hand, typical skeletal characteristics of the syndrome such as the elongation of the extremities because of an exaggerated overgrowth of the long bones are observed in this patient. Concerning cardiac alterations, the most frequent, reported by authors such as Ammash et al (3) and Dean (4) is the dilatation of the ascending aorta on the aortic valve level. Taking into consideration the cardiac pathology of these kind of patients, it is imperative that preceding the performance of any odontological treatment implying bleeding, an application of the antibiotic prophylaxis by means of the intake of 2 grams of Amoxicillin one hour prior to the procedure or 600 mg of Clindamycin in case of allergic patients has to be carried out (11, 12). Nevertheless in the cases which required a long treatment is better to performed the dental treatment under sedation to use antibiotic prophylaxis just one time. Equally, some considerations must be taken at the time of selecting the proper anesthetics, because of the fact that authors such as Hirota and cols (12) establish that the epinephrine in these patients is capable of producing both an accel-

eration of the cardiac function and an increase in the cardiac output. It is also very common in these patients the presence of inguinal hernias, as observed in the exposed case, which had two.

On a craniofacial level, the palatal of the Marfan Syndrome is deep and stretch and both jawbones present retrognathia. Westilng and cols (5) studied 76 patient with this syndrome, observing in the 70% of them a dental collapse and an excessive increase of the over-jet, due to the minor jawbone development. These features are observed on a same manner in the present case. Related to the dental characteristics, De Coster and cols (8) report that in one population of 23 patients with MS, the majority presented a mayor risk of cavities and also a very high difficulty of treatment, because the existence of enamel hypoplasia, radicular deformities, and abnormal form of the pulp chamber. In the same way, they establish that the periodontal disease is presented with a higher frequency and severity in these patients. In the presented case, the patient had a generalized gingivitis mainly associated to plaque. As previously described in other reports, the patient presented a dilacerated radicular rest. No obliteration was found when performing endodontic treatment (7,8). Regarding to Temporomandibular Alterations, Bauss O et al (13) reported a prevalence of 51.6% of articular dysfunction and 24.2% of subluxation. (Table 1).

Patients with MS present endless medical compromises and mouth alterations that difficulty the overall dental treatment. Because of its medical conditions, a mayor predisposition to develop dental cavities, periodontal deceases and malocclusions are created. Early diagnoses of both dental and craniofacial anomalies, as well as an opportune appliance of an adequate treatment, could definitely develop a satisfactory prognosis of these type of patients, considerably improving their life quality.

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**Table 1.** Oral Manifestation in Marfan Syndrome.

Authors	Oral Manifestations
Westling L, Mohlin B, Bresin A; 1998 (5)	Reported deep palate and maxilar and mandibular retrognathia in 70% of the evaluated patients.
De Coster PJ, Martens LC, De Paepe A; 2002 (8)	Reported a higher caries prevalence in patients from 0 to 17 years.  High prevalence of hipoplastic stains.  Radicular deformation and pulp obliteration.  High gingival index and calculus
Straub A, Grahame R, Scully C, Tonetti M; 2002 (9)	Reported a case of a 41 years old patient with severe periodontitis, 5.6 mm of insertion loss, bone loss and dental mobility.
Bauss O, Sadat-Khonsari R, Fenske C, Engelke W; 2004 (13)	High prevalence of temporomandibular disfunction, subluxation and anterior displacement of articular disk in 21 patients with MS.
Bauss O, Neter D, Rahman A; 2008 (7)	High prevalence of pulpitis and pulp obliteration in patients with MS.
Utreja A, Evans CA; 2009 (6)	Described 2 patients with severe Periodontitis without local factors.

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