

## **Managing the Challenge of Sports Related Dental Injuries in Athletic Children- A Case Report**

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### **Abstract**

Sports related injuries are the most common cause of dental trauma in children. The most commonly injured teeth are the maxillary central incisors, followed by the maxillary lateral incisors and the mandibular incisors. Presented here is a case of a 13 year hockey player who met with a sports injury and reported to the dental clinic with the chief complaint of broken upper left central incisor. The treatment was carried out by doing Root canal treatment of the broken tooth followed by the crowning of the fractured tooth with porcelain fused to metal. The goal of present paper was to help develop dental trauma management awareness in sportspersons which can help deal with everyday teeth trauma in most appropriate way.

**Key words: Sports injury, porcelain fused to metal, dental trauma**

### **Introduction**

It has been widely reported that participation in sports carries a considerable risk of sustaining dental injury [Davies & Bradley, 1977; Sane & Ylipaavalnime, 1988; Flanders & Bhat, 1995 and Rodd & Chesham, 1997]. Contact sports are defined as those sports in which players physically interact with each other, trying to prevent the opposing team or person from winning [Rodd & Chesham, 1998]. A considerable number of papers have appeared in the dental literature highlighting the dangers of participation in such sporting activities, in particular 'stick' sports such as lacrosse, and field and ice hockey [Sane & Ylipaavalnime, 1988 and Rodd & Chesham, 1997]. In addition, competitive matches have been shown to be far more hazardous than training sessions. Highly significant differences have been shown to exist between the number of teeth injured and the causes of injury [Sane & Ylipaavalnime, 1988]. For example, a blow or kick from another player most

often causes injury to one tooth, while a fall or blow from a hard object often results in injury to two teeth. The prompt and appropriate management of traumatic dental injury is an important determinant of the prognosis of the involved tooth. The lack of knowledge of the appropriate handling sequence often has detrimental effect. Dental injuries can be classified by etiology, anatomy, pathology or therapeutic considerations with extrusion, intrusion and tooth avulsion being the most frequent types of dental trauma that we see in the dental office. The transport and care of the affected tooth, the prompt and adequate treatment in the dental office, as well as the proper follow up are imperative for a successful outcome of these incidents. The goal of present paper is to help develop dental trauma management awareness in sportspersons which can help deal with everyday teeth trauma in most appropriate way.

### *Case Report*

A 13 year old young hockey player reported to the dental clinic with a chief