

Maxillary Left Lateral Incisor Fracture with Pulpal Involvement - A Case Report

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Abstract

Vigorous physical activities as well as competitive athletics offer sports men and women a variety of healthful benefits. However, participating in such activities also places athletes at risk for injury, including trauma to the teeth and mouth. These injuries are most often due to direct hits with a ball or player-to-player contacts. The goal of present paper discusses a case of a 17 year old hockey player who met with a sports injury and reported to the dental clinic with the chief complaint of broken upper front teeth. The paper discusses various treatment options available for different types of fractures to the teeth. Simple fracture involving enamel/dentin requires composite build ups but complex fractures involving pulp and extensive loss of tooth structure requires root canal treatment followed by post and core and crowning of the fractured tooth with porcelain fused to metal.

KEYWORDS: Post and core, Root Canal, Crown

Introduction

A good athlete will devote endless hours to help him perform at the highest level possible. Strength, fitness, flexibility & endurance are crucial to their specific sport. All the systems of body are brought to their peak levels and this involves the assistance of coaches, trainers, physicians, nutritionists and other health care professionals. The most neglected area is dental health. These athletes represent the highest level of physical development but their dental health is either at or below average level of the general population. There are many reasons for this. The financial costs of proper dental care are not a priority within the athlete's limited budget. Secondly, athletes have not been educated in this regard that is about importance of good dental health to their performance.

The most serious problem arises when an athlete is unable to perform due to pain or swelling from

dental crises. Even if they are not forced to withdraw, the trauma of an unexpected dental problem can severely affect the level at which athlete is able to train or compete. Valuable time is lost when dental injury occurs.

Dental injuries are a major problem for players from the pain stand point, esthetic standpoint and economics stand point *Andreasen et al (1994)*. Depending on the extent and the types of injury, some injuries can be managed at the sporting event site, with the athlete resuming play immediately. Other injuries may demand transfer to an urgent care setting and management by a specialist. Proper initial assessment and management of injuries may prevent unfavorable long-term results and permanent facial deformities. The ultimate goals are for the athletes to recover functionally and aesthetically from the facial injury and to return to competition in a timely manner *Ranalli (2002)*. Dental injuries are common incidents and timely and suitable