



Animal Dental Care

Ian J. Haws, DVM, FAVD, DAVDC

SMALL ANIMAL DENTISTRY: FIFTY KEY QUESTIONS

Module 6 Principles of Extraction

31. What are the indications and contraindications for dental extractions in dogs and cats?

- the first consideration before doing a dental extraction is whether the tooth is deciduous or permanent
- in general, when there is pathology present for a deciduous tooth, it should be extracted
- for example, whenever there is a deciduous tooth present and its permanent counterpart is erupting, the deciduous tooth should be extracted if it does not have marked mobility, as this can lead to malocclusion and periodontal disease

Persistent deciduous 604 in a 6 month old male Jack Russell terrier. Note the persistent deciduous canines are usually distal to their permanent counterparts in the maxilla. In this case there was no mobility for 604.

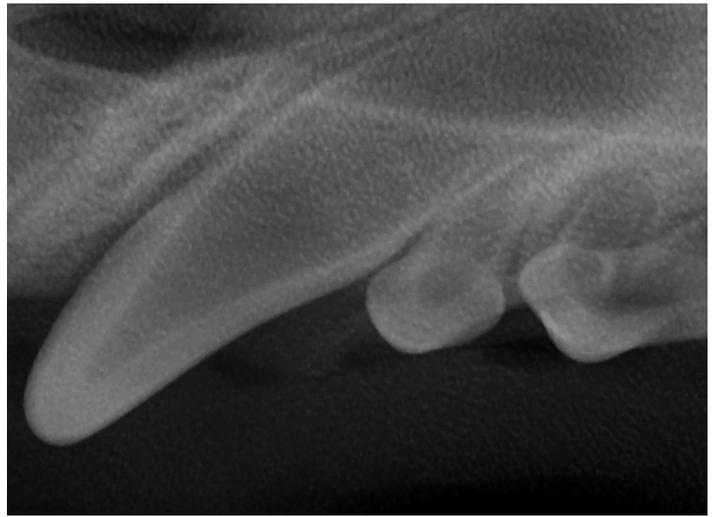




Left maxillary radiograph showing 604 distal to its erupting permanent counterpart, 204.

Note there is no root resorption for 604.

Left maxillary radiograph showing surgical extraction for persistent 604 is complete.



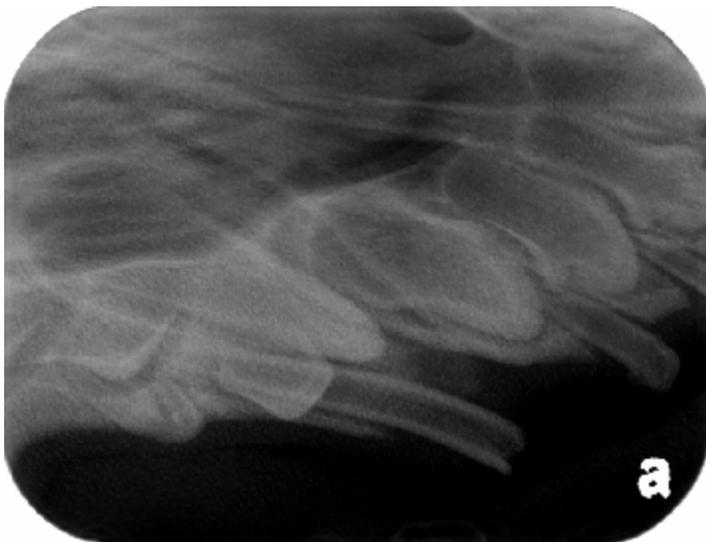
Surgical extraction for persistent deciduous 604 complete.

Note the releasing incision is distal to 604 to avoid surgery directly over the erupting 204. This will help prevent enamel hypoplasia for 204.



- other examples of absolute indications for extraction of deciduous teeth are when there is a crown fracture with pulpal exposure or if there is a malocclusion of a deciduous canine tooth or teeth that is causing palatal trauma and/or interfering with potential mandibular growth
- this condition is seen in puppies with normal jaw lengths
- it is also seen when a puppy has a class 2 malocclusion and the lower deciduous canines are distal to the upper canines when in occlusion
- this is referred to as deciduous canine tooth interlock
- in these cases, the mandibular deciduous canines should be carefully extracted

Acute pulpal exposure of 504 in a 12 week old female Labrador retriever.



Right maxillary radiograph of acutely fractured 504 showing no root resorption.