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Hemisection of Molar with Questionable Prognosis: A Case Report

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Introduction: Severe vertical bone loss with mobility and periodontal abscess on molars is often treated with extraction of the tooth. Hemisection is an alternative which maintains both tooth and periodontal tissue. Hemisection refers to the sectioning of a mandibular molar into two halves followed by removal of the diseased root and its coronal portion, most commonly performed on mandibular molars with class II or III furcation involvement.

Objectives: To emphasize the importance of endodontic and periodontics treatment when dealing with endo-perio lesions and to demonstrate the considerable healing potential of the periodontal aspect.

Case: A 55-year-old male patient reported to the Department of Periodontology, Padjadjaran University, Bandung, Indonesia, with a chief complaint of tooth mobility in the lower right posterior sextant. On intraoral examination, deep pocket depth and abscess in a vital mandibular first molar was found. Grade II mobility and grade III furcation involvement was reported. Radiographic examination showed severe vertical bone loss on distal root region of the affected tooth.

Case Management: Initial periodontal treatment on all regions and endodontic treatment of the mandibular first molar was performed. Removal of the distal root was followed by bone graft and PRF membrane placement to the affected area. The final restoration was performed using crown and bridge.

Conclusion: Endodontic treatment followed by hemisection was beneficial in preserving molars with periodontally questionable prognosis.