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Diagnosis of disc displacement with reduction with intermittent locking using CBCT: A case report

S. A. Prativi¹, S. Sitam², B. Sam², D. D. Saraswati².

¹Resident of Dentomaxillofacial Radiologist, Faculty of Dentistry, Padjadjaran University, Bandung, West Java, Indonesia

²Department of Dentomaxillofacial Radiology, Faculty of Dentistry, Padjadjaran University, Bandung, West Java, Indonesia

Temporomandibular disorders (TMD) have their own chief symptoms and dysfunctions associated with an altered condyle-disc function. One of the disorders that might happen in some patient is disc displacement with reduction (DDR). DDR combined with intermittent locking at close mouth position showed that the disc is in more anterior position relative to the condylar head and it intermittently reduces while the opening the mouth. Otherwise, radiographic examination is essential for the diagnosis and management of TMD. The aim of this study was to confirm a diagnosis in case of DDR combined with intermittent locking in radiographic finding.

This study was performed in 28 years old female patient with her chief complaints of pain on the left temporomandibular joint (TMJ). Intermittent locked and jaw shift to right direction while opening has been observed since three years ago. Panoramic radiograph showed asymmetry of condylar position. The left condylar head was in more posterior and larger than the right side. Both condylar heads were oval-shaped. CBCT assessment showed that the position of the left condylar head was in more postero-superior than the right side, and increasing anterior joint space at close mouth position was seen. Based on anamnesis and clinical examination, the diagnosis was a disc displacement with reduction with intermittent locking. CBCT can help to confirm the diagnostic more accurately than the panoramic radiograph by showing the distance of joint space. However, MRI is a gold standard for TMD diagnostic. It can measure the position and morphology of temporomandibular disc.

Keywords: Disc displacement, Reduction, CBCT