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Assessment of mandibular 3rd molar impacted position in Indonesian population through panoramic radiography

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Introduction: Position of 3rd molar impaction in the lower jaw is very varied. The position of impaction is usually associated with the wall of the mandible canal and also the depth in the ramus. Each individual has a characteristic. Indonesian people are very varied and certainly also vary in this tooth position. Panoramic radiograph is the example method that can be used to assess these teeth.

Objective: The aim of this study was to assess the position of the mandibular 3rd molar impacted teeth in Indonesia's population through panoramic radiography.

Materials and methods: This study uses the description method. The population used panoramic radiography, with the mandibular 3rd molar impacted. Total sample consisted of 250 men and 350 women, aged 16-50 years. Assessment was conducted in two ways: 1) to assess the proximity of the impacted tooth to the mandibular canal, and 2) to evaluate the depth of the tooth in the ramus.

Result: Regarding the proximity to the mandibular canal, 38% in women and 49% in male have the impacted teeth touching the wall of the nerve canal. For the position of the impacted teeth in ramus, the most found positions in 41% of women and 47% of male were class A.

Conclusion: Most of the mandibular 3rd molar impacted teeth on Indonesia's population had position towards the mandibular canal with the impacted tooth touching the wall of the nerve canal, and most of the teeth are positioned in the ramus with class A.

Keywords: 3rd molar, Canalis mandibularis, Ramus mandibula