Abnormalities of Teeth

SYNONYMS
• Abnormally small teeth

ETIOLOGY
• Both inherited and environmental factors appear to play a role in the development of microdontia.

TYPICAL CLINICAL FEATURES
• Microdontia can affect a single tooth (focal microdontia) or all the teeth in the dentition (generalized microdontia).
• The teeth most commonly affected in focal microdontia are the maxillary lateral incisors (peg lateral) and maxillary third molars.
• Generalized microdontia occurs in Down syndrome and pituitary dwarfism.
• Supernumerary teeth are often microdonts.

MICRODONTIA

OTHER USEFUL CLINICAL INFORMATION
• More common in females.
• Focal microdontia is more common than generalized microdontia.
• Often associated with hypodontia (missing teeth).

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS
• An accurate diagnosis can be made based solely on clinical features.

DIAGNOSTIC STEPS
• No diagnostic steps other than recognition of the typical clinical features.

TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
• Appropriate restorative therapy.

FOLLOW-UP
• Periodic re-evaluation