Introduction

Traumatic injury to the primary dentition is a common occurrence in young children especially trauma to the maxillary primary anterior dentition. The maxillary incisors and, more specifically, the central incisors, are the most commonly injured teeth. It is well known that premature loss of primary posterior teeth results in dental arch space loss but there is a lack of evidence in the literature about space loss after primary anterior teeth premature loss. Current literature suggests that premature loss of maxillary primary incisors does not typically result in loss of intracanine space if the incisor loss occurs after eruption of the primary canines; however, loss of space is expected if primary incisors are premature lost prior to the eruption of the primary canines and in children with crowded dentition. The purpose of this study is to determine how primary incisor trauma and subsequent tooth loss is being managed in United States.

Objectives

- Determine if pediatric dentists, pediatric dentistry residents, and general dentists who are members of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) are implementing space maintenance when a primary incisor is lost prematurely.
- Determine the type of space maintainer used
- Determine if space loss was observed if no space maintenance was initiated

Methods

The survey research is composed of 22 questions in a forced response survey. The survey was developed to compare two case scenarios and the subsequent space maintenance recommended for each scenario. The survey will be distributed en masse by email through REDCap to all active members, life members, affiliate members, retired members, and postdoctoral students of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentists. Email listserv will be obtained from the AAPD.

Discussion

The sequelae of premature loss of primary incisors can affect esthetics, quality of life, eating, speech development, arch integrity, development and eruption of permanent teeth, and development of oral habits.

With increased knowledge of possible sequelae to traumatized teeth, dentists can better understand how to treat these teeth and how to deal with potential complications.

Conclusions

Pending

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