



CLINICAL FEATURES OF PERIODONTITIS OF BABY TEETH

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Annotation. Periodontitis of baby teeth is an inflammatory disease of periodontal tissues surrounding the roots of temporary teeth. This is a common problem in pediatric dentistry, often occurring as a complication of untreated deep caries or pulpitis. The structural features of baby teeth and the immunological features of the child's body contribute to the faster development of inflammatory processes.

Keywords: Periodontitis of baby teeth, periodontal inflammation, Clinical manifestations, X-ray diagnostics, Conservative treatment, Purulent periodontitis, Chronic periodontitis, Oral hygiene

Causes of periodontitis of baby teeth

1. Caries and pulpitis:

Deep caries spreading to the pulp is the main cause of periodontal inflammation.

The infection penetrates through the root canals, causing an inflammatory reaction in the periodontium.

2. Dental injuries:

Fractures, dislocations, or other injuries can damage the periodontium and contribute to its inflammation.

3. Errors in treatment:

Poor-quality root canal treatment or the use of irritating materials can provoke inflammation.

4. Common diseases:

Chronic infections and decreased immunity in a child increase the risk of periodontitis.

Forms and stages of periodontitis of baby teeth

1. Acute periodontitis:

Is characterized by severe inflammation with severe pain, which increases with biting or palpation.

Periodontal edema, hyperemia and infiltration by inflammatory cells are observed.

2. Chronic periodontitis:

Is sluggish, often asymptomatic, with periodic exacerbations.

Granulomas, cysts, or fibrous changes develop in periodontal tissues.

3. Purulent periodontitis:

Formation of purulent exudate occurs, which can lead to the development of periostitis, fistula or abscess.

Clinical manifestations

- Pain in the area of the affected tooth.
- Swelling of the soft tissues around the tooth.
- Hypersensitivity to biting.

- Mobility of the tooth.
- The presence of purulent discharge from the gingival fistula (with purulent form).

Features of periodontitis in baby teeth

1. The structure of baby teeth:

Thin root walls and wide dentine tubules contribute to the rapid spread of infection.

The roots of baby teeth are physiologically resorbed, which makes the periodontium more vulnerable.

2. Age-related features of the body:

In children, the immune system is not yet fully developed, which reduces the resistance to infections.

Differential diagnosis of periodontitis in adult and baby teeth

1. Structural features of teeth:

Baby teeth have thin roots and wider dentine tubules, which contributes to the rapid penetration of infection into the periodontium. In adult teeth, the roots are thicker and the tissue structure is more dense.

2. Clinical course:

In children, the inflammatory process develops faster and is more often accompanied by an acute course. Chronic forms of periodontitis are often observed in adults.

3. Radiological signs:

In baby teeth, signs of physiological root resorption are often visible on the X-ray, which can make diagnosis difficult. In adults, there are no such changes, which simplifies the identification of periodontal pathologies.

4. Symptoms:

In children, pain and inflammation are often accompanied by common symptoms such as fever or lymphadenopathy. Localized manifestations are more common in adults.

5. Treatment:

In pediatric dentistry, the choice of gentle methods is important, taking into account the physiological replacement of baby teeth with permanent ones. In adults, the main focus is on preserving the tooth and restoring periodontal functions.

Diagnostics

1. Clinical examination:

Identification of symptoms of inflammation (pain, swelling, tooth mobility).

2. X-ray diagnostics:

Detection of destructive changes in the bone tissue around the roots of the tooth (periapical foci, periodontal fissure dilation).

3. Laboratory studies:

Tests can confirm the presence of an inflammatory process (an increase in the level of leukocytes and ESR).

Treatment of periodontitis of baby teeth

1. Conservative treatment:

Mechanical and medical treatment of root canals.

Removal of necrotic tissues and administration of antiseptics.

Filling of root canals with special resorbable materials.

2. Surgical treatment:

Tooth extraction in case of significant destruction of the root or the inability to preserve the tooth.

3. General measures:

Prescribing antibacterial therapy in the presence of systemic manifestations of infection.

Prevention

- Regular dental check-up (at least twice a year).
- Timely treatment of caries and pulpitis.
- Oral hygiene (brushing teeth twice a day, using baby toothpaste).
- Nutrition correction (restriction of sweets, enrichment of the diet with calcium and vitamins).

Conclusion

Periodontitis of baby teeth is a serious disease that can lead to complications such as tooth loss, impaired growth of permanent teeth and the development of inflammatory processes in neighboring tissues. Timely diagnosis and adequate treatment can prevent complications and preserve the health of the child's oral cavity.

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