



# Tips for First Permanent Molars Extraction

*Assist. Prof. Dr. Noor Muhammed Hasan Garma*  
*B.D.S, MSc., Ph.D. (Ortho)*



# *Introduction*

Children can present with a developing dentition affected by one or more first permanent molars of poor prognosis, which may necessitate their enforced extraction. In the right circumstances, first permanent molar extraction can be followed by successful eruption of the second permanent molar to provide a suitable replacement, and ultimately third molar eruption to complete the molar dentition.

# Treatment-Planning Decisions



# **Treatment-Planning Decisions**

**General or  
Paediatric Dentist**

# **Treatment-Planning Decisions**

**Orthodontist**

# Prognosis







## *Development of the first permanent molar*

Formation 17 week of gestation .

Hard tissue formation birth

Crown 3 year of life

Eruption 6-7 years

Root 9-10 years



- 
- Poor
  - Enforced extraction
  - Elective extraction (Balancing & compensating extractions)

# Balancing & compensating extractions

factors can influence whether a first permanent molar is recommended for either a balancing or compensating extraction:

- Which of the first permanent molar/s requires enforced extraction
- The overall condition and long-term prognosis of the remaining first permanent molar/s
- The teeth present and developmental status of the dentition (including third molars)
- The underlying malocclusion.



## compensating extractions

Current evidence would suggest that the risk of upper first permanent molar over-eruption as a consequence of lower first permanent molar extraction is **small** . However, all available data that addresses this issue directly is based on **retrospective cohort studies**, often with very small sub-samples (Mejare I *etal*, 2005) (Jalevik B, Moller M, 2007).

A **randomized controlled trial** has been registered, which aims to investigate clinical effectiveness and quality of life associated with and without compensating extraction of upper first permanent molars in conjunction with the enforced extraction of lower first permanent molars (Innes N *etal*, 2013).

More high-quality research on the topic is required to determine the necessity of this practice for achieving optimal long-term oral health in children (Lee J *et al*,2021).

The background features a row of wooden blocks on the left, with the letter 'E' clearly visible on one of them. Below this, the word 'EVIDENCE' is written in large, light grey, semi-transparent capital letters across the width of the page.

## compensating extractions

When enforced extraction of **lower** first permanent molar is required, some consideration should be given toward **compensating extraction** of the **upper** first permanent molar if this tooth is likely to remain unopposed for a significant length of time.

The routine compensating extraction of a sound **lower** first permanent molar, in conjunction with enforced extraction of the **upper** first permanent molar, is **not recommended**.

# Balancing extractions

Evidence from retrospective cohort studies suggests that the **dental centreline** in either arch is **unlikely to be affected**. (Mejare I etal, 2005)  
(Jalevik B, Moller M, 2007)

E

V

I

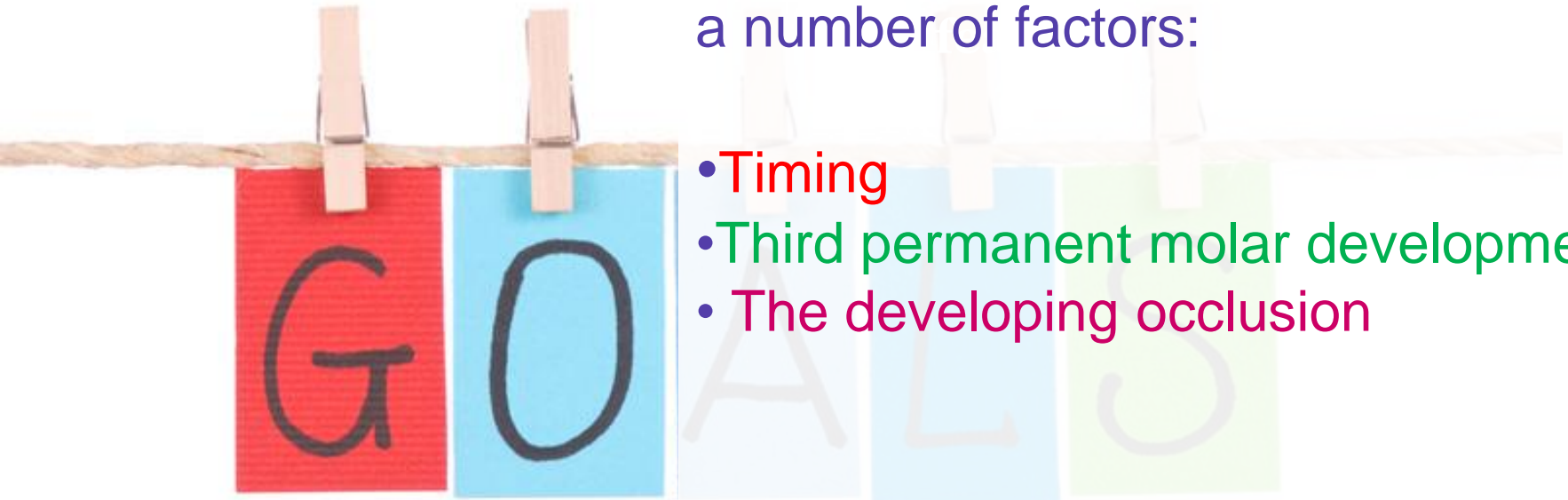
D

E

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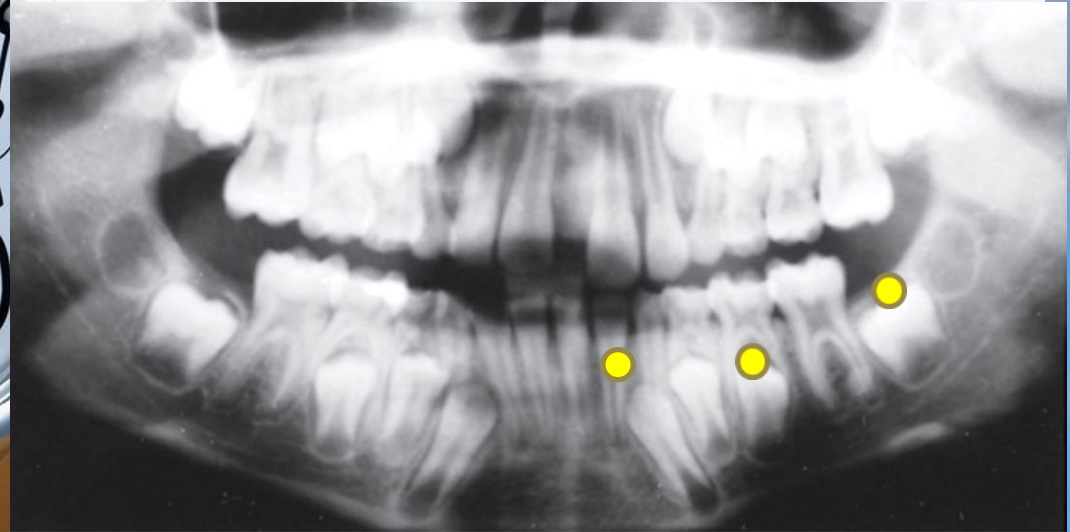
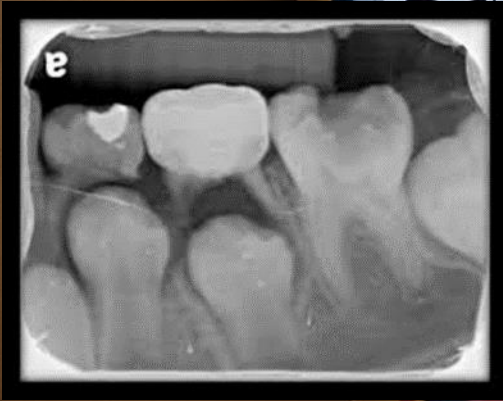


Achieving this can be complicated by a number of factors:

- Timing
- Third permanent molar development
- The developing occlusion

## *Timing*

*The most favourable  
chronological age range is **8-10**  
years.*





*before the age of 8 years*

- *There is often no radiographic evidence of third molar development.*



**early  
start**





*before the age of 8 years  
in the lower arch:*

- *The second premolar can drift distally into the extraction space, tip and rotate*





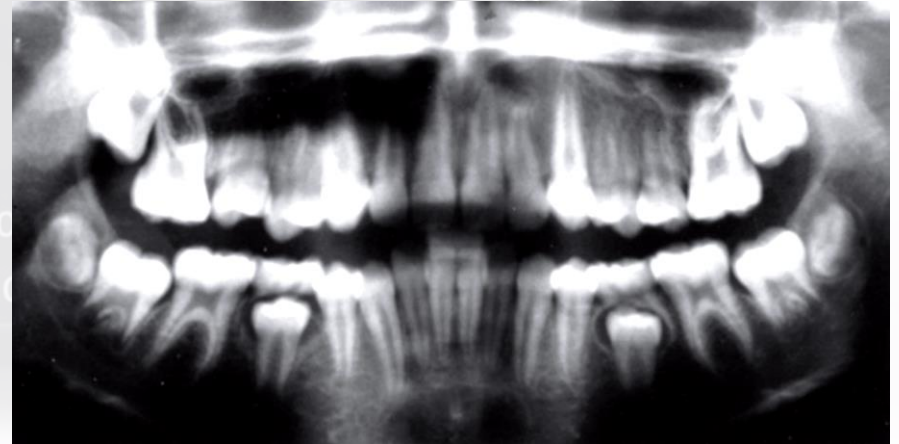
*before the age of 8 years  
in the lower arch:*

*•The labial segments can  
retrocline with an accompanying  
increase in the overbite .*





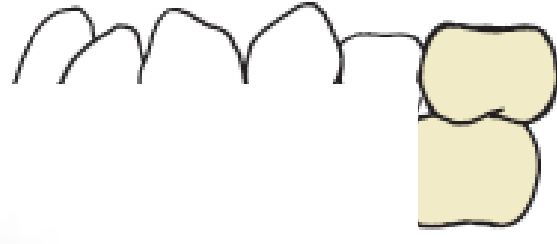
- *There is more risk that this second permanent molar tip mesially rotate Spacing poor occlusal Contacts*
- *The erupted second premolar can migrate distally.*



# Malocclusion



Normal  $\alpha$



$\beta$



Class II malocclusion



Class III malocclusion

# Guidelines

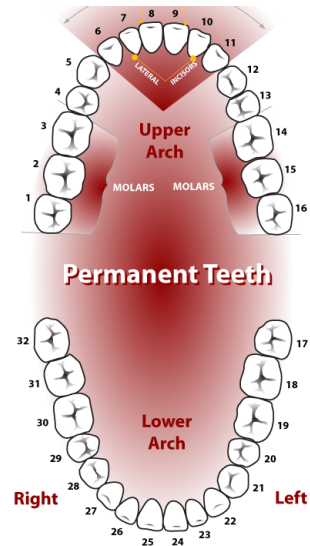
A hand holding a green marker, underlining the word 'Guidelines'.

## minimal crowding

Aim

good occlusal position.

- **Do not balance** unilateral first permanent molar extraction in either the upper or lower jaws with healthy first permanent molars

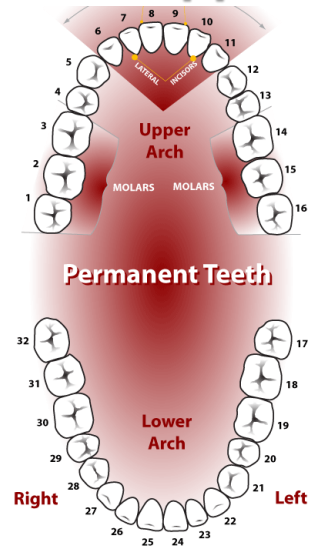


## minimal crowding

Aim

good occlusal position.

- If the **lower** first permanent molar is to be lost, **compensating** extraction of the upper first permanent molar can be considered if this tooth is likely to be **unopposed** for a significant length of time

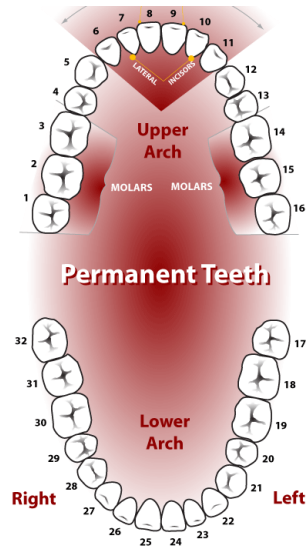


## minimal crowding

Aim

good occlusal position.

- If the **upper** first permanent molar is to be lost, **do not compensate** with extraction of the lower first permanent molar if it is healthy.



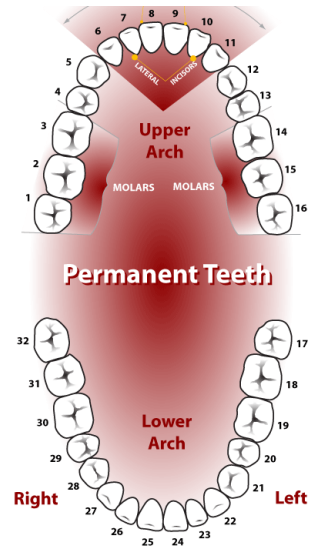


## moderate crowding (buccal segment)

Aim

good occlusal position  
provide some relief of crowding.

- If the buccal segment crowding is **bilateral**, consider **balancing extraction** of the contralateral first permanent molar to provide suitable relief.

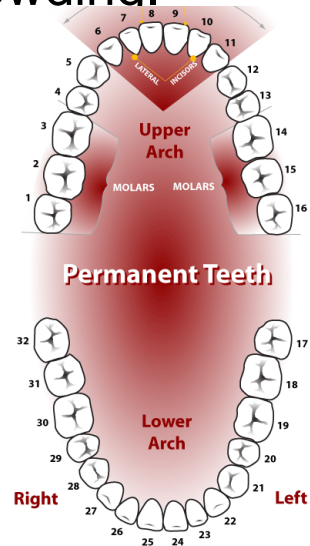


## moderate crowding (buccal segment)

Aim

good occlusal position  
provide some relief of crowding.

- **Compensating** extraction of upper first permanent molars can be considered to relieve **premolar** crowding.

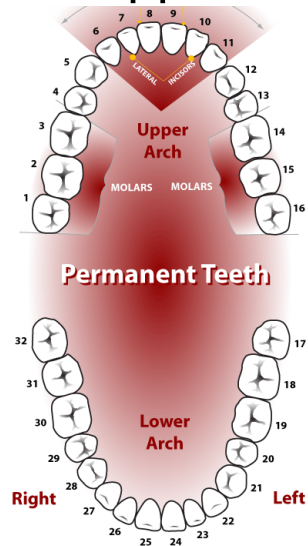


## moderate crowding (Labial segment)

Aim

good occlusal position  
provide some relief of crowding.

- First permanent molar extractions can be **delayed** until the **second permanent** molars have erupted and then the extraction space used for alignment with fixed appliances.



More difficult to plan, particularly with regard to the timing

If the upper first permanent molars require **immediate extraction:**

the buccal segment relationship

A functional appliance

removable appliance

followed by fixed appliances if required to correct the incisor relationship.

# Class II cases

If the upper first permanent molars can be **temporised or restored** then their extraction can be **delayed** until the **second permanent** molars have **erupted**. The extraction space can then be used to correct the malocclusion with **fixed appliances**

## *Severe crowding*

If there is crowding in the upper arch or if space will be required for correction of a class II incisor relationship, consideration should be given towards temporisation of the compromised FPM until the SPM erupts





# Class II cases

more difficult to plan  
*Severe crowding*





# Class II cases

more difficult to plan  
*Severe crowding*  
*Pre molar*  
*TAD*



more difficult to plan, particularly with regard to the timing

As a general rule, balancing and compensating extractions are not recommended in class III cases. A tendency toward increased residual spacing of the second permanent molar has been described in the **lower arch** of class III cases following first permanent molar extraction



Rules

## Final Note

It is not advisable to extract a healthy premolar for orthodontic purposes if the first permanent molar in the same quadrant is heavily restored.

1. Berkovitz BKB, Holland GR, Moxham BJ. *Oral Anatomy, Embryology and Histology*. 4th ed. Mosby International Ltd, Edinburgh; 2009.
2. Ten Cate AR. *Oral Anatomy: development, structure and function*. Mosby-Year Book Inc, St Louis, Missouri; 2015.
4. Lakhani S, Noble F, Rodd H, Cobourne MT. Management of children with poor prognosis first permanent molars: an interdisciplinary approach is the key. *Br Dent J*. 2023 May;234(10):731-736
5. Jalevik B. Prevalence and Diagnosis of Molar-Incisor-Hypomineralisation (MIH): A systematic review. *Eur Arch Paediatr Dent* 2010; **11(2)**: 59-64.
5. Kuhnisch J, Heitmüller D, Thiering E *et al*. Proportion and extent of manifestation of molar-incisor-hypomineralizations according to different phenotypes. *J Public Health Dent* 2012.
6. MT Cobourne, Williams A, R McMullen .A Guideline for the Extraction of First Permanent Molars in Children.2023

A watercolor splash background with soft, blended colors of blue, green, yellow, and orange. The colors are layered and bleed into each other, creating a soft, painterly effect. The splash is centered on a white background.

*Thank  
You*