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#1 in Endodontic Microsurgery

# JOURNAL *of* ENDODONTIC MICROSURGERY

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2. <http://www.angelini-pharma.com/wps/wcm/connect/com/home/Angelini+Pharma+in+the+world/>

3. Тимофеев А.А. и др. "Особенности гигиены полости рта для профилактики воспалительных осложнений при переломах нижней челюсти". Современная стоматология 2015;1(75):52-8.

4, 4.5. Tymofiejew O.O. et al "Prevention of inflammatory complications upon surgeries in maxillofacial region". J Diagn Treat Oral Maxillofac Pathol. 2017;1:105-12.

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# About the Journal: Aims and Scope

VOLUME 3 • DECEMBER 31 • 2024  
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## Official Title

Journal of Endodontic Microsurgery

## Acronym

JEM

## Official Title in Ukrainian

Журнал ендодонтичної мікрохірургії

## Standard Abbreviation: ISO 4

J. Endod. Microsurg.

## International Standard Serial Number (ISSN)

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## Universal Decimal Classification (UDC) Index

UDC Index of the journal: 616.314-089.81(051).

UDC Index assigned by the Ivan Fedorov Book Chamber of Ukraine, State Scientific Institution.

## Aims and Scope

This annual journal focused on publication of peer-reviewed articles of all types on all topics of endodontic microsurgery.

## Editorial Board (EB) Composition

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The journal has full-time professional editor and publisher.

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## Frequency

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Editorials, Guest Editorials, Case Reports/Case Series, Original Articles, Review Articles, Discussions, Review of Articles, Book Reviews, Letters to the Editors, and Viewpoints.

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E-mail: [office@jendodmicrosurg.org](mailto:office@jendodmicrosurg.org).

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November 19, 2021 (Certificate: Серія KB № 25027-14967 P [in Ukrainian]).

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- Media identifier: R30-04319. Decision dated April 11, 2024, No. 1225, Protocol No. 13.

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- Register of Scientific Publications of Ukraine, Ukraine.
- Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine, Ukraine:

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September 26, 2018.

Information leaflet is

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Order of the

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**Registration Certificate**

No. UA/3920/01/01



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(назва видання іншою мовою (мовами))

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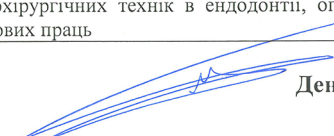
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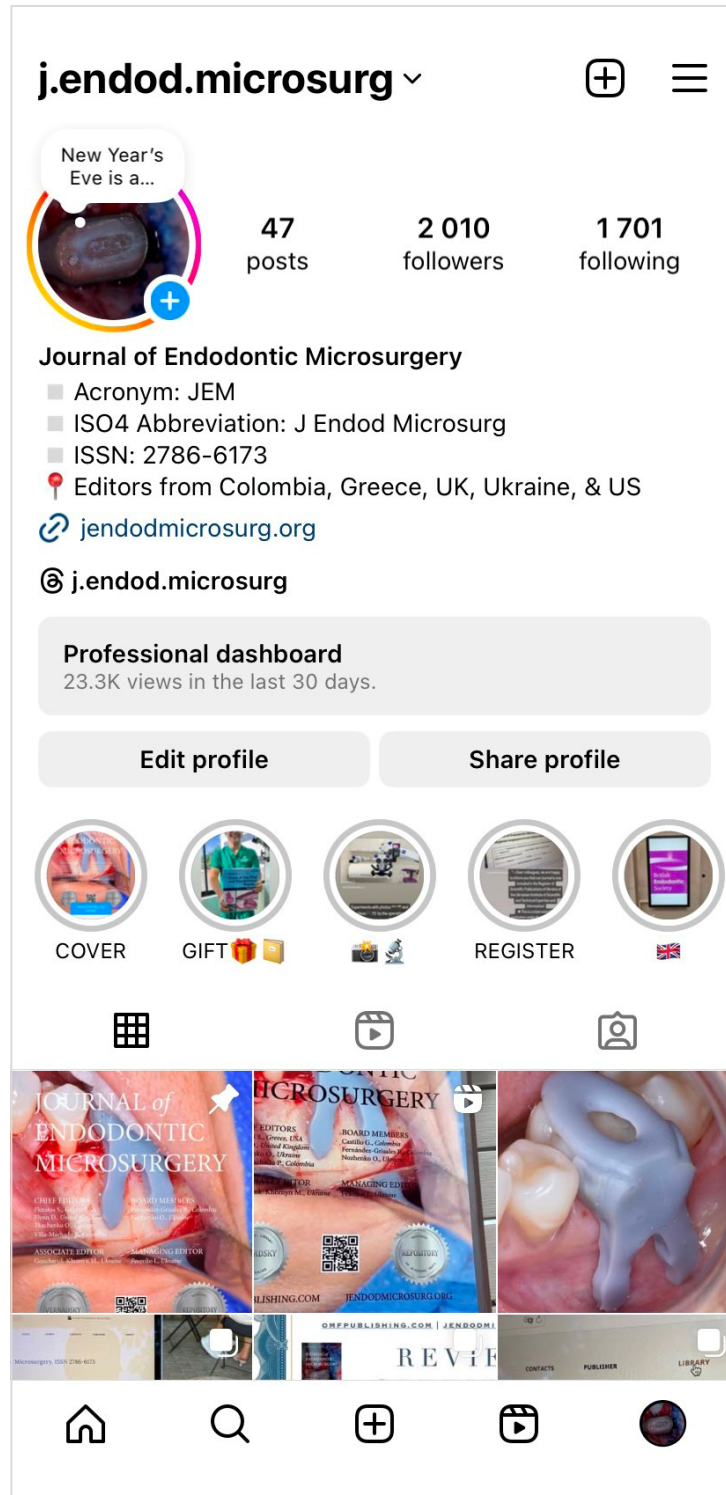
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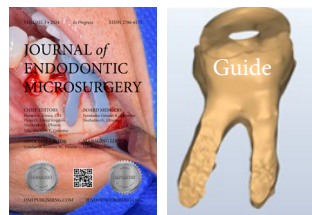
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COURTESY

Cover image courtesy Dr. Castillo, Cali, Colombia. See article: Castillo et al (2024), 100017.  
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CASE REPORT/TECHNIQUE

GUIDE | WINDOW

# Proposal for an Anatomic Guide in Cortical Bone Window Technique for Endodontic Microsurgery: A Case Report

Gustavo A. Castillo<sup>a,\*</sup>, Silvia A. Restrepo-Méndez<sup>b</sup>, Martin F. Gustin<sup>c</sup>, & Ingrid X. Zamora<sup>d</sup>

## ABSTRACT

This case report describes a novel design for an anatomical guide used in endodontic microsurgery (EM) with the cortical bone window technique. A 60-year-old female patient presented with persistent pain and a radiographic periapical lesion associated with tooth #36 (i.e., lower left first molar). Following a diagnosis of symptomatic apical periodontitis, a treatment plan involving guided EM with static navigation was implemented. Cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) data was segmented to create a stereolithographic (STL) file of the tooth. This file was aligned and 3D-printed with a biocompatible resin to create a customized anatomical guide. The guide facilitated a precise osteotomy, accurate apex localization, and conservative flap management during surgery. The surgical procedure was completed successfully, with minimal complications. Follow-up CBCT one month later demonstrated excellent adaptation of the bone fragment and apical seal. Using 3D imaging and a customized anatomical guide in EM demonstrates promising outcomes for treating complex cases. The proposed design offers advantages by eliminating the need for guide tubes and facilitating conservative flap management. Further clinical studies are recommended to validate the long-term efficacy of this technique.

## KEY WORDS

Bone window; cone-beam computed tomography; endodontic microsurgery; osteotomy; piezoelectric surgery

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## INTRODUCTION

Endodontic microsurgery (EM) is a surgical procedure to treat persistent periapical disease. This involves removing infected and affected tissue surrounding the root tip (periapical area) when previous non-surgical root canal treatment (endodontic therapy) or retreatment has failed [1]. The success rate of EM is currently around 94%. This high success rate can be attributed to various factors, such as the use of cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), the operative microscope, the preparation of the root-end cavities with the ultrasonic devices, and the development of more biocompatible root-end filling materials, among other advancements [2]. However, this success rate can be reduced for several reasons, including the tooth's position in the mouth [3]. This is why lower molars can have lower success rates compared to teeth in other positions [4]. This is attributed to the difficulty of locating the root apices due to the thickness of the cortical bone of the vestibular wall and impediments in access by different anatomical structures, including the inferior alveolar nerve or the mental foramen [4].

For this reason, using three-dimensional (3D) computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) guides has recently become common, optimizing the size of osteotomies, and minimizing the possibility of deviation according to the digitally established surgical planning [5, 6]. These guides, despite demonstrating great advantages, have some limitations. Antal et al. (2019) reported the difficulty in taking impressions and scanning in

shallow vestibules, the positioning of the guide, and access of instruments due to the size of the mouth of some patients and the impossibility in some cases of performing apical cuts without angulation, situations that can affect the prognosis of the surgery [7].

In this case report, we present a design of an anatomical guide for endodontic microsurgery by use of the cortical bone window technique in a very precise way from the patient's tomography, digital segmentation, and 3D printing.

## CASE REPORT

A 60-year-old female patient with no significant medical history was referred for evaluation and treatment of tooth #36 (i.e., lower left first molar) due to a history of pain when chewing. Dental history included endodontic treatment and retreatment performed approximately 6 months ago and persistent periapical lesion. On clinical examination, revealed an adapted occlusal restoration,  $\leq 2$  mm of periodontal probing, and painful on vertical percussion. Radiographically, previous endodontic treatment is observed, the mesiobuccal canal is underfilled with apparent transportation in the apical third of the root. A hypodense area in the mesial root is also observed and the buccal cortical bone is intact (Fig 1). Based on the above findings, a diagnosis of previous endodontic treatment and symptomatic apical periodontitis was established. The treatment plan involved guided EM with static navigation, which the patient accepted through informed consent.

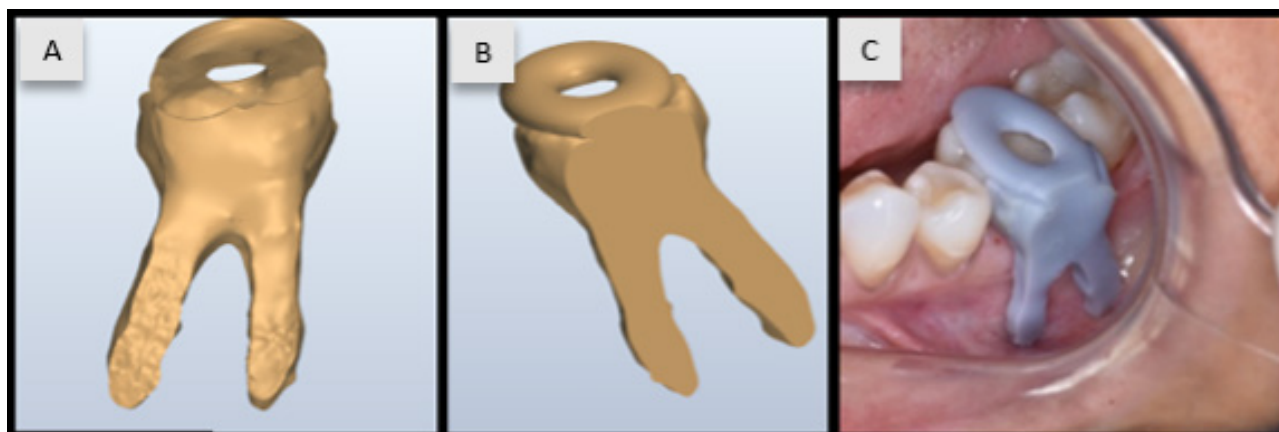


**FIGURE 1.** Preoperative cone-beam computed tomography of the tooth #36 (i.e., lower left first molar): (A) sagittal, (B) coronal, and (C) axial planes. The yellow arrow shows the periapical lesion, and the red arrow shows the mesiobuccal canal is underfilled with apparent transportation in the apical third. An intact thickness of vestibular cortical bone is present.



The Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) files of CBCT (Myray Hyperion X9 Tomograph, Imola, Italy) voxel size 75  $\mu\text{m}$ , field of view 60x40mm- were imported into the Mimics software (Materialise NV, Leuven, Belgium) and then the segmentation for the tooth #36 was performed. The stereolithography (STL) file of the tooth was aligned and projected toward

the buccal cortical bone plate. Subsequently, a Boolean was added to the occlusal anatomy of the tooth to reproduce the digital position at the time of surgery. This stereolithographic file was printed on a 3D CreaLity printer (HALOT-MAGE, Shenzhen, China) with a biocompatible resin, Die, and Model 2 from SprintRay (Los Angeles, California, USA) (Fig 2).



**FIGURE 2.** (A, B) Tomographic and clinical sequence (C) of the design and performance of the modified “cortical bone window” technique on tooth #36.

Before the procedure (Fig 3), the patient rinsed with 0.12% chlorhexidine (Clorhexol, Farpag S.A.S., Bogotá, Colombia) for 1 minute. For local anesthesia, 3 cartridges of 2% lidocaine with 1:80,000 epinephrine (New Stetic S.A., Guarne, Colombia) were used: 2 cartridges for inferior alveolar nerve block and 1 cartridge to anesthetize the mental nerve. A rectangular full thickness intrasulcular flap was raised from the mesial aspect of tooth #35 to the distal aspect of tooth #37. After raising the flap, the adaptation of the guide was checked, and the patient was asked to bite on a gauze to secure the printed device (Fig 3B). Next, with the aid of magnification (operative microscope Zumax OMS 2350, Zumax Medical Co., Ltd., Suzhou New District, China), the US3 tip (Ultrasurgic touch, Woodpecker Medical Instrument Co. LTD, Guilin, Guangxi, China) of the Surgic Touch piezoelectric system (Woodpecker Ultrasurgic Touch unit, Guilin Woodpecker Medical Instrument Co. LTD, Guilin, Guangxi, China) was used (Fig 3C, D) to create a 5mm x 3mm surgical bone window using the apex of the anatomical guide as a reference. After lightly marking the outline, the printed device was removed, and the cortical bone was completely cut by applying more pressure to the bone under ample abundant irrigation with saline solution and 7 high-power settings. The

bone fragment was removed and placed in a saline solution until the end of the surgical procedure.

The exposed root was examined (Fig 3E), and the accuracy of the guide was verified. An apicoectomy (3 mm) was performed using the same tip, and the apex was removed along with the lesion. The cavity was irrigated with saline solution, and hemostasis was achieved with sterile cotton pellets soaked with adrenaline 1mg/ml solution injectable (B.Braun Surgical, Medellín, Colombia) placed at the bottom of the osteotomy. The root-end preparation was carried out with EM ultrasonic diamond tip a tip (E30LD, NSK/Nakanishi Inc, Tochini, Japan) after a detailed observation with methylene blue and magnification (Fig 3F).

Retrograde obturation was performed with Bio-C Repair bioceramic reparative material (Angelus Indústria de Produtos Odontológicos S/A, Londrina, Brazil). After inspecting the seal, CollaTape® collagen wound dressing (Zimplant & CIA S.A.S, Bogotá, Colombia) was placed in the bone crypt, and the cortical window was repositioned (Fig 3G). The same collagen wound dressing was used to stabilize the bone fragment before repositioning the flap. Figure 4 demonstrate sequence of the surgical steps. Suturing was done with Dafilon 5-0 monofilament

suture (B. Braun Surgical S.A., Rubi, Spain). Written recommendations were given to the patient, and she was prescribed Amoxil (GlaxoSmithKline [GSK], London, England) capsules 500 mg #15 every 8 hours and Anexia (Tecnoquímicas S.A., Cali, Colombia)

tablets 120mg #5 daily. The patient returned after 7 days for suture removal without any postoperative complications. A CBCT was performed one month later, which showed excellent adaptation of the bone fragment and apical seal (Fig 5).



**FIGURE 3.** Clinical sequence of the anatomic guide in cortical bone window technique on tooth #36. (A) Pre- and (B) intraoperative positioning of the guide. (C, D) Piezoelectric cutting with the surgical guide in position. (E) the exposed root was examined, and apicectomy (3 mm) was performed using the same tip, (F) retrograde obturation was performed with BioC repair cement (Angelus, Londrina, Brazil). (G) CollaTape® collagen membrane (Zimplant, Bogotá, Colombia) was placed in the cavity, and the cortical bone fragment was repositioned. (Fig 3 continued on next page.)





**FIGURE 3 (continued).** Clinical sequence of the anatomic guide in cortical bone window technique on tooth #36. **(A)** Pre- and **(B)** intraoperative positioning of the guide. **(C, D)** Piezoelectric cutting with the surgical guide in position. **(E)** the exposed root was examined, and apicectomy (3 mm) was performed using the same tip, **(F)** retrograde obturation was performed with BioC repair cement (Angelus, Londrina, Brazil). **(G)** CollaTape® collagen membrane (Zimplant, Bogotá, Colombia) was placed in the cavity, and the cortical bone fragment was repositioned. **(Fig 3 continued on next page.)**



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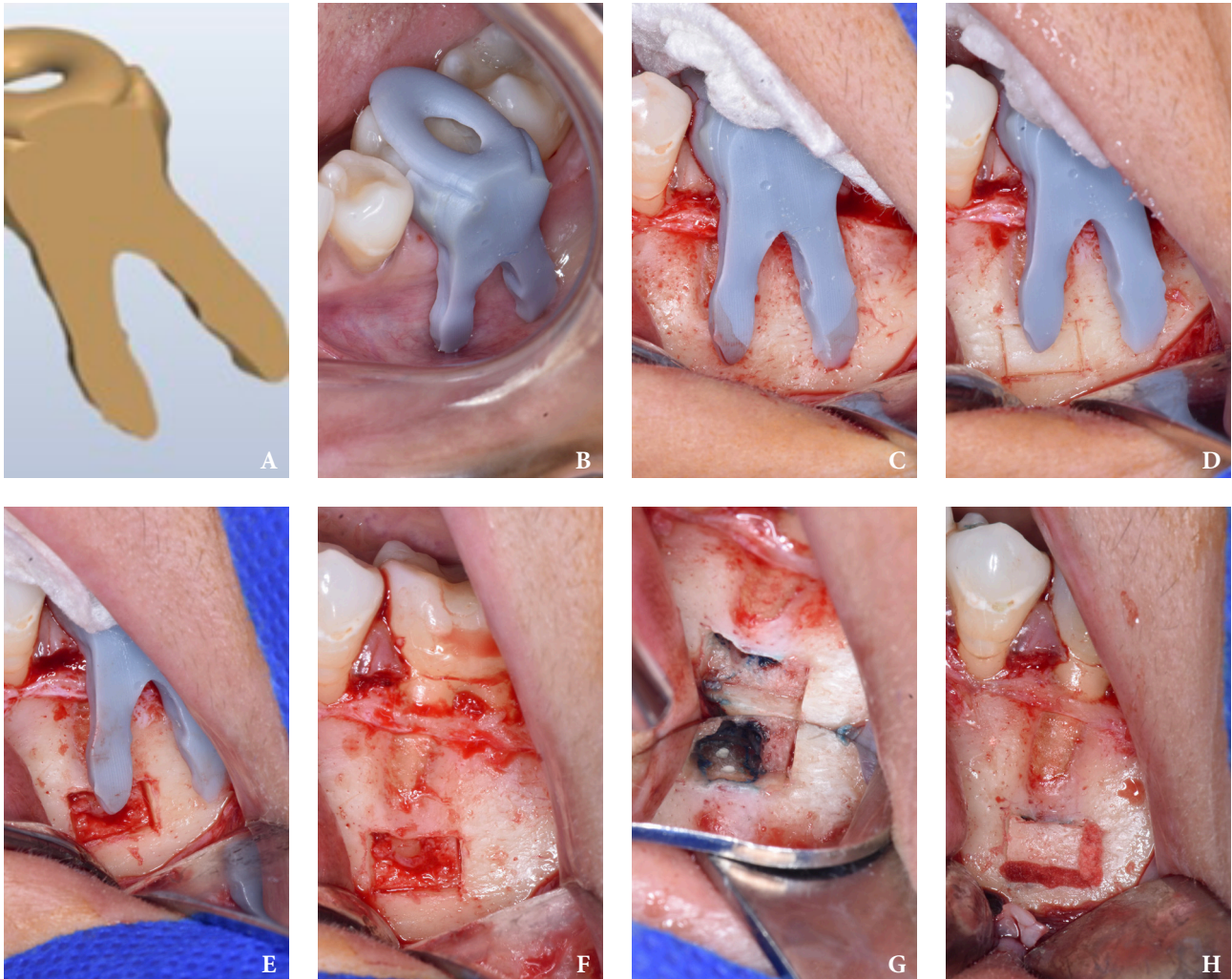




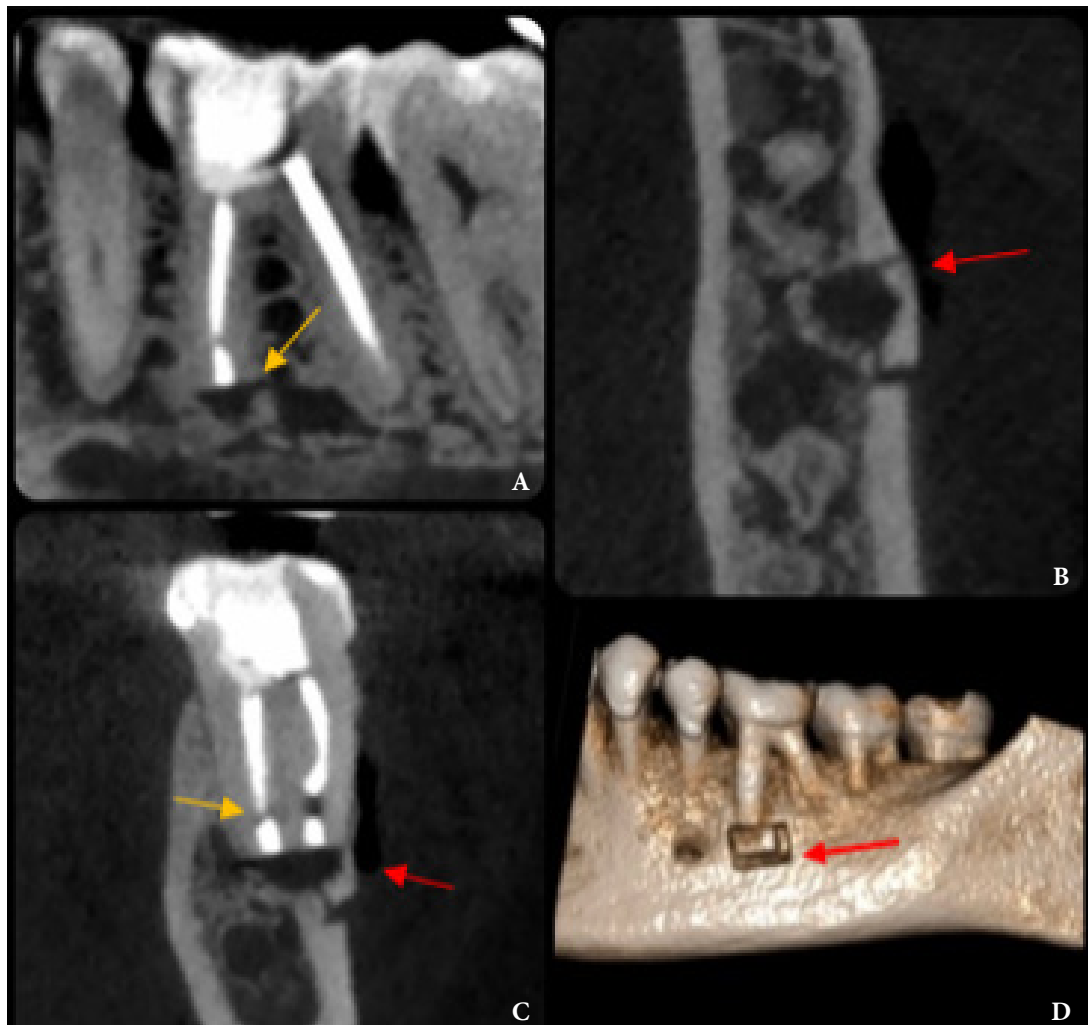
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**FIGURE 3 (continued).** Clinical sequence of the anatomic guide in cortical bone window technique on tooth #36. (A) Pre- and (B) intraoperative positioning of the guide. (C, D) Piezoelectric cutting with the surgical guide in position. (E) the exposed root was examined, and apicectomy (3 mm) was performed using the same tip, (F) retrograde obturation was performed with BioC repair cement (Angelus, Londrina, Brazil). (G) CollaTape® collagen membrane (Zimplant, Bogotá, Colombia) was placed in the cavity, and the cortical bone fragment was repositioned.





**FIGURE 4.** (A) Virtual planning and (B–H) clinical sequence of the anatomic guide in cortical bone window technique on tooth #36. (B) Pre- and (C) intraoperative positioning of the guide. (D, E) Piezoelectric cutting with the surgical guide in position. (F) the exposed root was examined, and apicectomy (3 mm) was performed using the same tip, (G) retrograde obturation was performed with BioC repair cement (Angelus, Londrina, Brazil). (H) CollaTape® collagen membrane (Zimplant, Bogotá, Colombia) was placed in the cavity, and the cortical bone fragment was repositioned.



**FIGURE 5.** Postoperative (one month after the EM) CBCT of tooth #36: **(A)** Sagittal plane, **(B)** axial plane, **(C)** coronal plane of mesial root), and **(D)** volumetric reconstruction. The *yellow* and *red arrows* show the excellent adaptation of the bone fragment and apical seal.

## DISCUSSION

The current trend for resolving complex cases in endodontic clinical practice is based on the use of 3D images for the visualization of anatomical structures, diagnosis, and precise planning of surgical treatments, such as the specific case of designing guides for complex procedures, whose characteristics potentially allow reducing the surgical intervention time and postoperative complications [8, 9].

The use of these surgical guides with the management of piezo-surgery allows for precise osteotomy with immediate apex location, improving visibility, and reducing bleeding, since they provide a precise and safe approach through the selective cutting of mineralized tissues such as bone and the preservation of soft tissues such as blood vessels, nerves, and mucous membranes. Improving postoperative effects during the healing time for the patient [6, 10-14].

Multiple designs and different software for the manufacturing of guides have been widely documented [15, 16]. In the technique presented, a compact and personalized design is involved, without the help of guide tubes that allows obtaining the outline of the tooth to be treated, superimposed on itself and soft tissues or the same underlying intact bone, facilitating the lifting of a conservative flap and without the need to perform an aggressive retraction of the mouth, also achieving the precise location of the root apex.

Considering the limitations of this technical report, the result of the guided surgical approach presented above is promising; it makes it possible to perform a guided osteotomy, apex location, and resection of the root apex according to digital planning, of course, considering and respecting the recommended guidelines for contemporary endodontic surgical procedures. To confirm the reliability of this method in the future, it is recommended to carry out clinical studies to test and confirm its viability and precision.

## CONCLUSION

The utilization of 3D imaging and customized anatomical guides in EM presented in this case report demonstrates promising outcomes for treating complex cases. The guided approach facilitated precise osteotomy, accurate apex localization, and

conservative flap management, potentially reducing surgical time and postoperative complications. Further clinical studies are recommended to validate the reliability and efficacy of this technique across a larger patient population.

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Data acquisition: Gustavo A. Castillo, Silvia A. Restrepo Mendez, Martin F. Gustin, Ingrid X. Zamora  
Data analysis or interpretation: Gustavo A. Castillo, Silvia A. Restrepo Mendez, Martin F. Gustin, Ingrid X. Zamora  
Drafting of the manuscript: Gustavo A. Castillo, Silvia A. Restrepo Mendez, Martin F. Gustin, Ingrid X. Zamora  
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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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ЗВІТ ПРО ВИПАДОК/МЕТОДИКА

UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE

# Пропозиція щодо анатомічного шаблону при ендодонтичній мікрохірургії для методики кортикального кісткового вікна: звіт про випадок

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## АНОТАЦІЯ

У цьому звіті про випадок описано нову конструкцію анатомічної направляючої, яка використовується в ендодонтичній мікрохірургії (ЕМ) з технікою кортикального вікна кістки. 60-річна пацієнтка звернулася з постійним болем і рентгенологічним періапикальним ураженням, пов'язаним із зубом 36 (тобто нижнім лівим першим моляром). Після встановлення діагнозу симптоматичного апікального періодонтиту було впроваджено план лікування, що включає керувану ЕМ зі статичною навігацією. Дані конусно-променевої комп'ютерної томографії (КПКТ) були сегментовані для створення стереолітографічного (STL, аббревіатура англomовного терміну "stereolithography") файлу зуба. Цей файл було вирівняно та надруковано на 3D-принтері за допомогою біосумісної смоли, щоб створити індивідуальний анатомічний шаблон. Шаблон полегшив точну остеотомію, точну локалізацію верхівки та консервативне управління клаптом під час операції. Оперативне втручання пройшло успішно, з мінімальними ускладненнями. Контрольна КПКТ через місяць продемонструвала чудову адаптацію кісткового фрагмента та апікального ущільнення. Використання 3D-зображень і індивідуального анатомічного шаблону в ЕМ демонструє багатообіцяючі результати для лікування складних випадків. Запропонована конструкція

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Слово «Шаблон» у верхньому правому значку означає, що стаття містить опис ендодонтичної мікрохірургії з використанням анатомічного хірургічного шаблону.

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має переваги, оскільки усуває потребу у направляючих трубках і полегшує консервативне управління клаптом. Рекомендуються подальші клінічні дослідження для підтвердження довгострокової ефективності цієї методики.

#### **КЛЮЧОВІ СЛОВА**

Кісткове вікно; конусно-променева комп'ютерна томографія; ендодонтична мікрохірургія; остеотомія; п'єзоелектрична хірургія





CASO CLÍNICO/TÉCNICA

SPANISH LANGUAGE

# Propuesta de una guía anatómica en la técnica de ventana ósea cortical para microcirugía endodóntica: reporte de un caso

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## RESUMEN

Este informe de caso describe un diseño novedoso para una guía anatómica utilizada en microcirugía endodóntica (ME) con la técnica de ventana de hueso cortical. Una paciente de 60 años presentó dolor persistente y una lesión periapical radiográfica asociada con el diente 36 (es decir, el primer molar inferior izquierdo). Luego de un diagnóstico de periodontitis apical sintomática, se implementó un plan de tratamiento que incluía ME guiada con navegación estática. Los datos de la tomografía computarizada de haz cónico (TCHC) se segmentaron para crear un archivo estereolitográfico (STL, abreviatura del término inglés "stereolithography") del diente. Este archivo se alineó e imprimió en 3D con una resina biocompatible para crear una guía anatómica personalizada. La guía facilitó una osteotomía precisa, una localización precisa del ápice y un manejo conservador del colgajo durante la cirugía. El procedimiento quirúrgico se completó con éxito, con complicaciones mínimas. La TCHC de seguimiento un mes después demostró una excelente adaptación del fragmento óseo y el sellado apical. El uso de imágenes en 3D y una guía anatómica personalizada en ME demuestra resultados prometedores para el tratamiento de casos complejos. El diseño propuesto ofrece ventajas al eliminar la necesidad de tubos guía y facilitar el manejo conservador del colgajo. Se recomiendan estudios clínicos adicionales para validar la eficacia a largo plazo de esta técnica.

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**PALABRAS CLAVE**

Ventana ósea; tomografía computarizada de haz cónico; microcirugía endodóncica; osteotomía; cirugía piezoeléctrica



CASE REPORT/TECHNIQUE

GTR

# Microsurgical Treatment of a Large Through-and-Through Periapical Lesion with Apicomarginal Defect using Guided Tissue Regeneration (GTR): A Case Report of a Four-Year Follow-Up

Witold Popowicz<sup>a,\*</sup> & Oleksandr Tkachenko<sup>b</sup>

## ABSTRACT

In case of a long-term periapical lesion, destruction of both vestibular and oral cortical plates is sometimes observed and even a through-and-through periapical lesion occurs. The success of the treatment decreases when an apicomarginal defect is added to the through-and-through periapical lesion. Large periapical lesions should be treated initially by orthograde root canal therapy. When the signs and symptoms of the infection don't recede after the treatment, then surgical approaches should be considered. In this case report, a 22-year-old female with previously initiated therapy was referred for an endodontic microsurgery of tooth 22 (i.e., upper left lateral incisor). After the endodontic treatment the patient was referred to the oral surgeon for apicoectomy with augmentation of the bone defect. The sinus tract in the apex area of the tooth 22 remained active since the surgical intervention. Endodontic microsurgery and guided tissue regeneration were performed. The article presents diagnostic data, namely pre- and post-operative images of cone beam computed tomography (after 2 and 4 years), as well as pre-, intra- and post-operative clinical images. All pre- and intraoperative procedures and stages are detailed. In particular, separation of platelet-rich fibrin (PRF) from venous blood, retrograde

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The acronym 'GTR' at the upper right icon means that article contains a description of the technique of guided tissue regeneration (GTR) during endodontic microsurgery.

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preparation with an ultrasonic tip and a device using a dental operating microscope and the use of a collagen membrane. After two- and four-year follow-up, radiographic examination revealed significant bone healing, and clinical signs and symptoms were absent. The patient hasn't reported any symptoms since. The paper also analyzes scientific sources on the use of PRF and collagen membranes in bone defects of the jaws. Attention is also paid to the formation of a flap during operations of this type. The main six success factors in the treatment of such complex cases are highlighted. Rethinking the previously performed surgery (apicoectomy) in this patient, attention was paid to the main five factors that could contribute to the failure.

## KEY WORDS

Through-and-through periapical lesion, apicomarginal defect, sinus tract, endodontic microsurgery, guided tissue regeneration (GTR)

## INTRODUCTION

The main cause of unsuccessful periapical healing after primary endodontic therapy or retreatment is the persistence of bacteria and infected tissue in the endodontic space [1]. The anterior region of the maxilla (especially lateral incisors) is the most common involved area [2]. In instances where nonsurgical retreatment cannot solve the problem a significant number of persistent nonhealing cases can be saved by endodontic microsurgery with a predictably favorable prognosis [3]. According to meta-analysis of the literature the success rate for traditional root-end surgery is 59% and for endodontic microsurgery 94% respectively [4, 5]. By removing the diseased tissue, debriding the canal system, and sealing the defect or cavity, the surgeon prevents or reduces the spread of microorganisms within the periradicular tissues.

Regeneration of periapical defects may have a significant problem in periradicular surgery. In such circumstances, the gingival connective tissue can proliferate, or the oral epithelium can migrate into the defect, preventing the development of normal trabecular bone. Hard tissue can be restored using guided tissue regeneration (GTR) [6].

An apicomarginal defect is a mix of two communicating bone defects: a periapical bone defect plus a total root dehiscence [7]. These defects are associated with relatively lower success rates after endodontic surgery [8, 9]. It has been reported [10, 11] that, when the apex of the root is totally surrounded by bone, the success rate is higher than when there is a lack of one cortical bone plate (it decreases to 37%) [9] or two cortical bone plates (to 25%) [8].

Treatment of large periapical defects using GTR increases overall treatment success [12]. Use of GTR in endodontic surgery of through-and-through

lesions that involve both the buccal and palatal alveolar cortical plates is recommended [13].

## CASE REPORT

A 22-year-old female patient was referred for an endodontic microsurgery. Tooth 22 (i.e., upper left lateral incisor) was symptomatic, luxated (II degree). A sinus tract observed above the apex contained purulent exudation and xenograft debris (Fig 1). Periodontal probing depths around teeth 21, 22, 23 were within the normal range. The patient had orthodontic treatment (fixed braces), but tooth 22 hadn't been involved.

In anamnesis it was indicated that the patient had endodontic treatment of extensive lesion of tooth 22 on 23 August, 2018 (Fig 2). After it the patient was referred to the oral surgeon for apicoectomy with augmentation of the bone defect. The sinus tract in the apex area of tooth 22 remained active since the surgical intervention.

The cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) analysis as of 2020 revealed partial bone reconstruction in the palatal part of the defect in the apex area of tooth 21 (tooth is vital). The bone defect was filled with heterogeneous, contrasting material (xenograft) (Fig 3).

## Preoperative Procedure

Before the surgical procedure, the patient's venous blood (20 ml) was drawn via venipuncture of the antecubital vein. It was collected in four 10-ml sterile glass tubes coated with an anticoagulant (acidcitrate dextrose). The blood was centrifuged with Centurion PRO-PRP S (Centurion Scientific Limited, Chichester, West Sussex, UK) at the speed of 2700 rpm for 10 minutes to separate platelet-rich

fibrin (PRF) from platelet-poor plasma. PRF was stored in a PRF box (Doctor Tools, Vladimirescu, Romania). A presurgical rinse with 0.2% solution of chlorhexidine (Eludril Classic; Pierre Fabre Group, Paris, France) was performed.

### Surgical Procedure

The entire surgical procedure (W.P.) was performed using a dental operating microscope (Microscope Carl Zeiss EXTARO 300, Germany). Anesthesia was achieved with buccal infiltration of 3 capsules (5.4 ml) of 2% lidocaine hydrochloride with 1:50,000 epinephrine (Xylodont; Molteni Stomat, Florence, Italy). The full-thickness triangular flap was raised with vertical incision in frenulum and horizontal sulcular incision from tooth 21 to 24.

The bone defect was cleaned from a substantial amount of granulation soft tissue and loosed xenograft granules (Fig 4). An apicomarginal bone defect was detected (class 2B), purely endodontic origin, according to apicomarginal defects classification [14].

After cleaning the root section surface with a surgical bur (Lindemann H254E, Komet, Germany), the lack of retrofilling was identified. The vertical root fracture wasn't identified with the help of dying

with 1% aqueous solution of methylene blue Canal detector (Cerkamed, Poland) (Fig 5A). 3 mm-deep retrograde preparation with an ultrasonic tip and device was performed (E11D, Woodpecker, Guilin Zhuomuniao Medical Devices Co., China). The root canal was filled with MTA+ (Cerkamed, Poland).

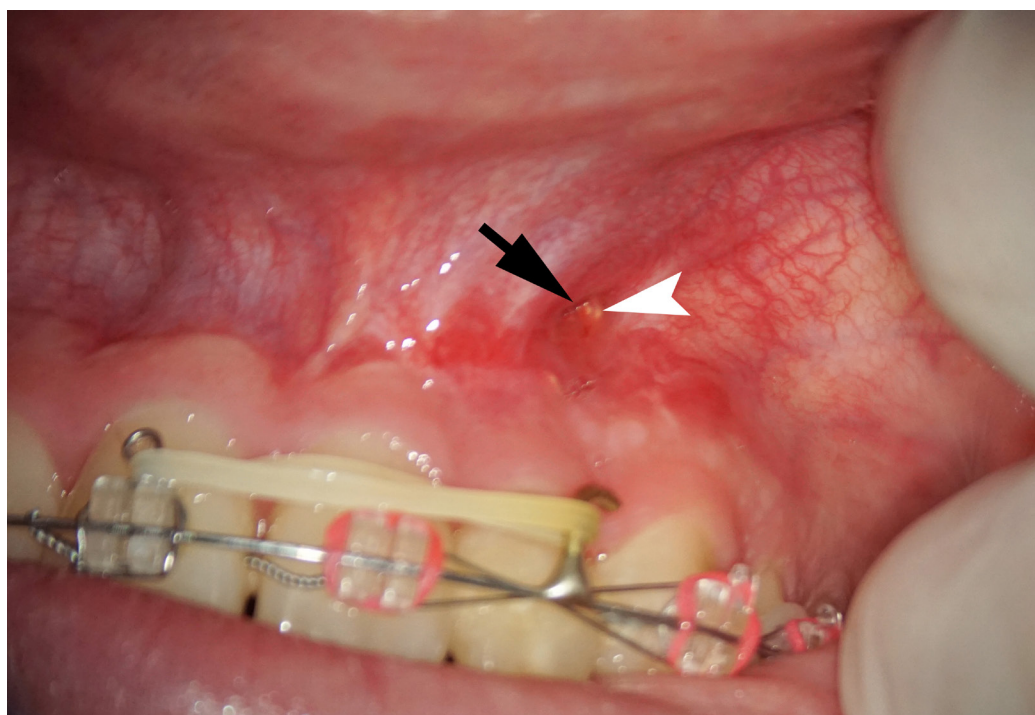
The bone defect was filled with a PRF plug (Fig 5B) and covered with a collagen membrane (SinossMem, B&B Dental Implant Company, Italy) (Fig 5C). It was covered with a PRF membrane and the wound was sutured with polypropylene (Luxylene 6/0, Luxsutures S. A. Luxembourg) (Fig 5D).

After the microsurgery X-ray was performed on 17 August, 2020 (Fig 6).

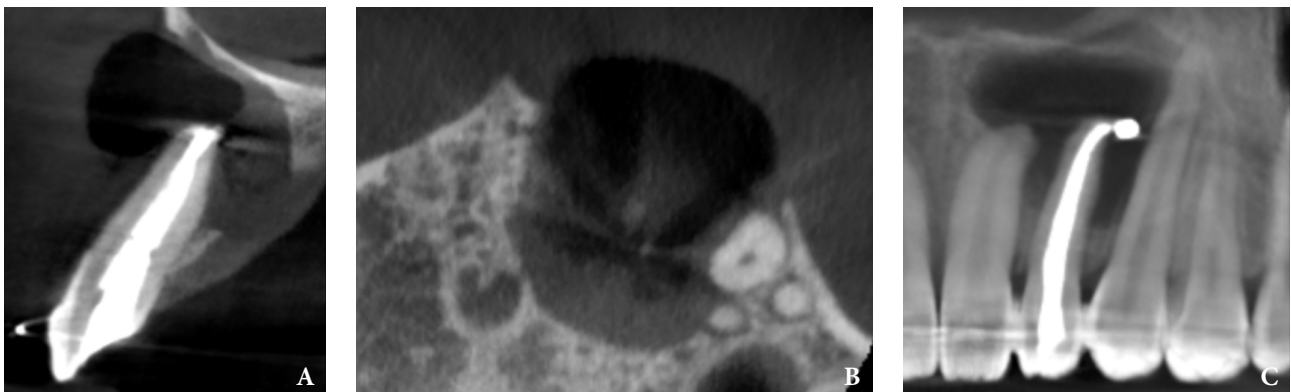
A follow-up which was carried out in 5 days revealed a sinus tract with serous exudation (Fig 7). The sutures were removed.

During subsequent visits gradual decrease of the sinus tract was observed. After 4 months the sinus tract closed completely (Fig 8).

The CBCT made after 2 (i.e., in 2022) and 4 years (i.e., in 2024) revealed significant bone reconstruction (Figs 9 and 10). The patient hasn't reported any symptoms since. Intraoral view four years (i.e., in 2024) after the endodontic microsurgery shows no signs of inflammation or sinus tract (Fig 11).



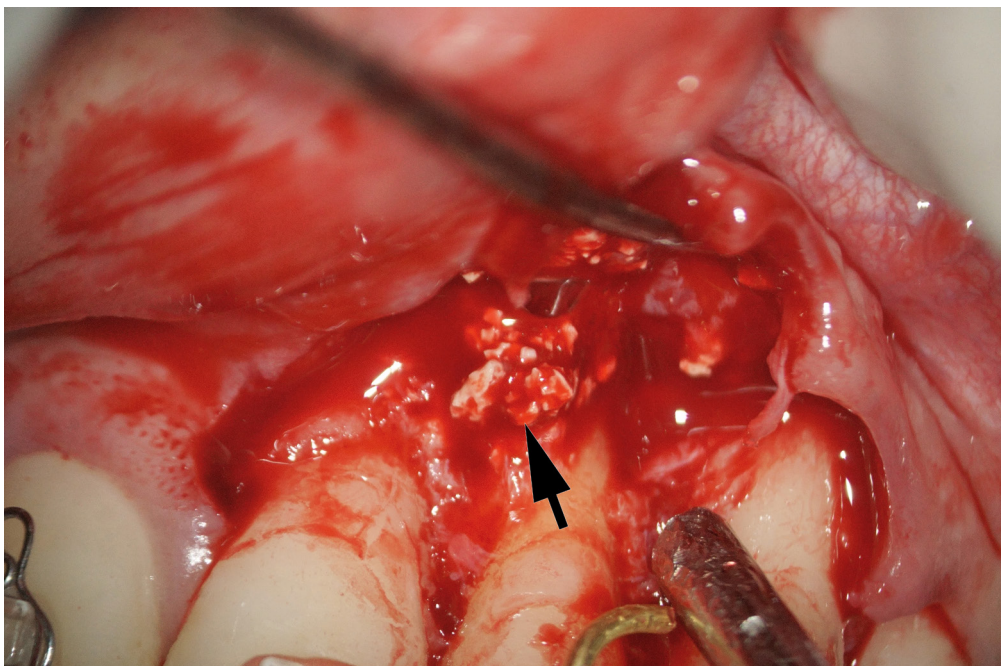
**FIGURE 1.** A sinus tract (*arrow*) observed above the apex of tooth 22 contained purulent exudation and and xenograft debris (*arrowhead*). Photography as of 2020.



**FIGURE 2.** Cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) of tooth 22 (upper left lateral incisor). (A) sagittal plane; (B) axial plane; (C) panoramic view from CBCT. CBCT as of 2018.

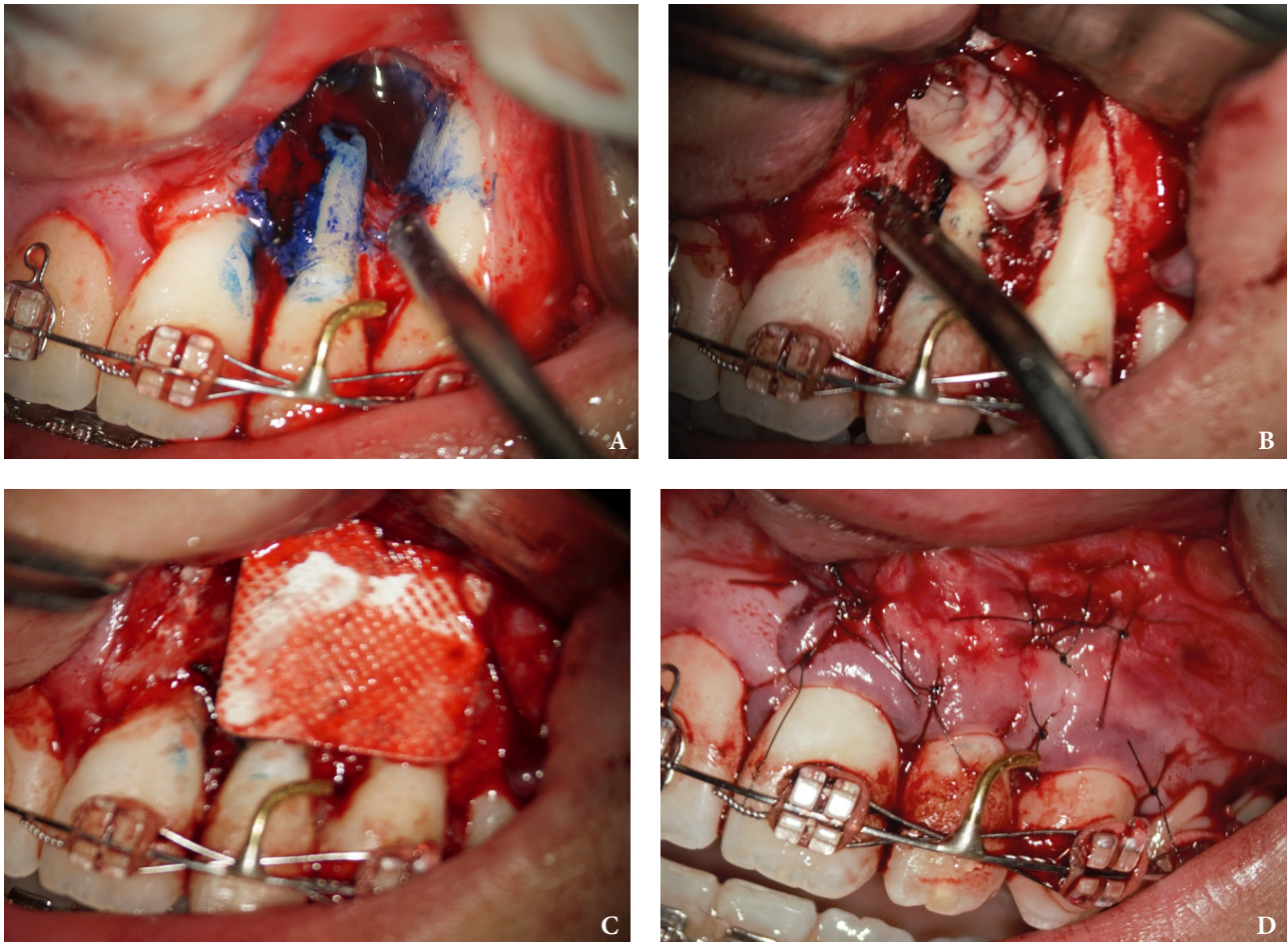


**FIGURE 3.** CBCT of the tooth 22. (A) sagittal plane; (B) axial plane; (C) panoramic view from CBCT. CBCT as of 2020.

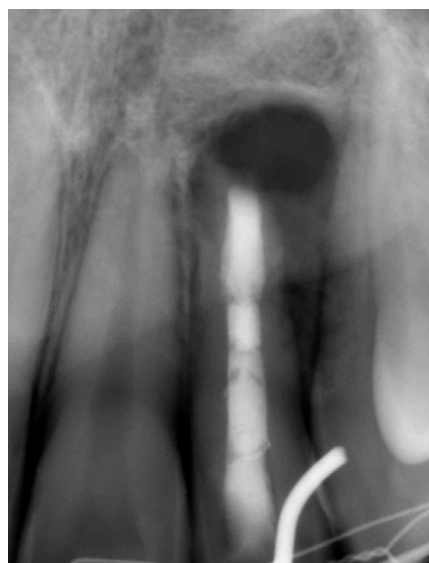


**FIGURE 4.** The full-thickness triangular flap was raised with vertical incision in frenulum and horizontal sulcular incision from tooth 21 to 24. The bone defect was cleaned from a substantial amount of granulation soft tissue and loosed xenograft granules (*arrow*).





**FIGURE 5.** The vertical root fracture wasn't identified with the help of dying with 1% aqueous solution of methylene blue Canal detector (Cerkamed, Poland) (A). The bone defect was filled with a PRF plug (B) and covered with a collagen membrane (SinossMem, B&B Dental Implant Company, Italy) (C). It was covered with a PRF membrane and the wound was sutured with polypropylene (Luxylene 6/0, Lux-sutures S. A. Luxembourg) (D).



**FIGURE 6.** After the microsurgery, X-ray was performed on 17 August, 2020.

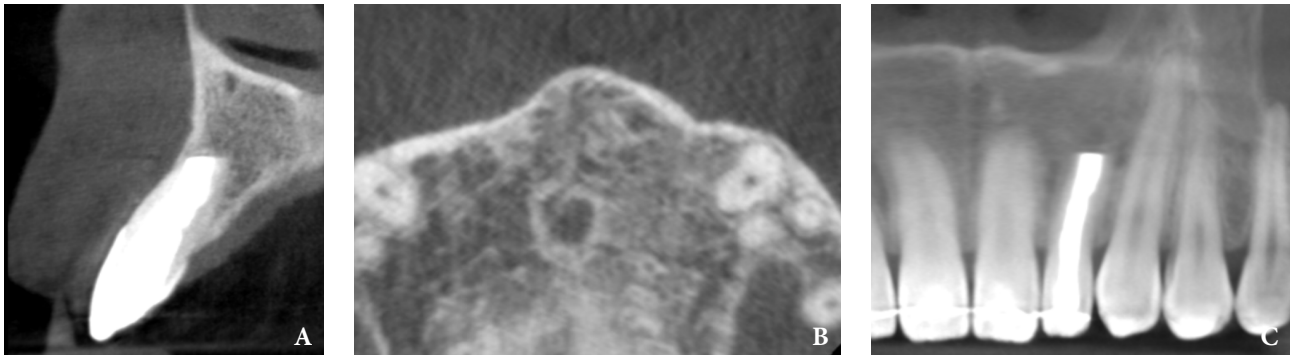


**FIGURE 7.** A follow-up which was carried out in 5 days after the microsurgery revealed a sinus tract with serous exudation.

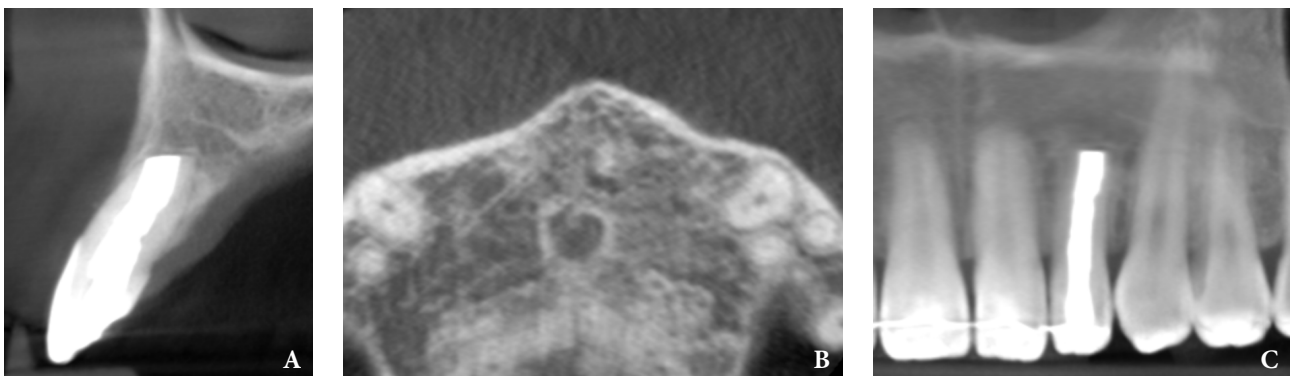


**FIGURE 8.** During subsequent visits gradual decrease of the sinus tract was observed. After 4 months the sinus tract closed completely.





**FIGURE 9.** A 2-year follow-up CBCT of the tooth 22. (A) sagittal plane; (B) axial plane; (C) panoramic view from CBCT. CBCT as of 2022.



**FIGURE 10.** A 4-year follow-up CBCT of the tooth 22. (A) sagittal plane; (B) axial plane; (C) panoramic view from CBCT. CBCT as of 2024.



**FIGURE 11.** Intraoral view four years (i.e., in 2024) after the endodontic microsurgery shows no signs of inflammation or sinus tract.



## DISCUSSION

This case perfectly shows that a success in treatment of such complex cases depends on many factors. The main ones are:

1. Understanding the cause-and-effect relationships in the development of inflammation and why failure occurred after the first surgical treatment.
2. Analysis of evidence-based articles and guidelines that provide recommendations on how to conduct treatment according to the patient's problem.
3. Technical provision of all necessary tools, materials and equipment for endodontic microsurgery.
4. Clinical experience and good manual skills of a surgeon.
5. Use of materials and methods of treatment that have the highest success rate according to the scientific evidence-based literature.
6. Factors that depend on a patients themselves (health condition, complexity of a clinical case, their responsibility, a desire to save a tooth).

Analyzing the first performed surgical manipulation (apicoectomy), we should pay attention to the main factors that contribute to the failure:

1. Insufficient cleaning and tightness of the filling mass in the root canal. The most common cause of failure in nonsurgical endodontic treatment is a leaky canal (30.4%) [15].
2. Resection of the root tip was performed without retrograde preparation and filling. Song et al. [16] determined that no root-end filling and incorrect root-end preparation were the most common causes of failure, followed by missing or leaky canals and unidentified isthmuses.
3. Absence of membranes in case of a through-and-through bone defect. Application of barrier membranes in through-and-through bony crypts after endodontic surgery might create a microenvironment, which is conducive for osteogenesis in a short-term experimental observation or clinical follow-up as compared to without barrier membranes [17]. Based

on limited information in the literature, through-and-through bone defects could benefit from application of GTR technique using bioabsorbable barrier membranes after endodontic surgery to improve the rate of new bone formation in short-term observation [18–20].

4. Improper use of bone-plastic material that sometimes masked chronic inflammation for a long time. Radiographically, the problem of using bone graft substitutes in endodontic surgery is the difficulty of differentiating incomplete healing (scar tissue) from uncertain healing (no healing) because bone graft substitutes are radiopaque [21].
5. Absence of control observations of clinical symptoms after the operation, the condition of the sinus tract, and the lack of control X-rays by a doctor who previously performed apicoectomy.

In periapical surgery the sulcular full thickness flap is often used [22]. The main disadvantage of the sulcular full thickness flap is recession and, especially, unpredictable shrinkage of the papilla during healing [23]. The risks of these complications are greater, especially when surrounding bone tissue is lost.

When discussing the issue of the rationality of filling a bone defect, it is worth noting the scientific data related to the use of PRF. Platelet-rich plasma (PRP), bone morphogenic proteins (BMPs), platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF), parathyroid hormone (PTH), and enamel matrix proteins (EMD) have been locally applied to promote the healing potential of the surgical site [24]. It has been advocated that PRF can be considered a healing biomaterial because it is constituted by a fibrin network in which platelets, leukocytes, cytokines and stem cells are enmeshed [25]. Moreover, the platelets in the PRF network are capable of slowly releasing PDGF and insulin-like growth factor (IGF) [26, 27], even up to one week [28]. The osteogenic potential of these molecules has been already demonstrated [29, 30]. PRF can be thought as a grow factor reservoir that can be employed without exposing the patient to any immunogenicity or infection risk [31].

A collagen graft can be another alternative; however, PRF has been proven to have a beneficial effect in regeneration [32–34].

The article [35] analyzes the use of PRF in endodontic microsurgery. A control group of four patients (without PRF) and a test group of seven patients (with PRF) were involved. After endodontic microsurgery, the results of both groups were compared. Then the assessment was carried out according to three important indicators: the speed of healing, the intensity of pain and the amount of swelling. In the group where PRF was used, a statistically significant differences in the three criteria were observed: the speed of periapical healing accelerated, the intensity of postoperative pain and the severity of postoperative swelling decreased.

Sometimes scar tissue formation with through-and-through periapical lesions during tissue repair is observed [36–38].

Ingrowth of connective tissue into the osseous defect prevents periapical bone regeneration. It

can result in periapical scarring, which is often misdiagnosed as pathology and may lead to unnecessary surgical reentry by a practitioner who is not fully aware of the history. When the barrier membranes are placed over bony defects and closely adapted to the surrounding bone surface, an environment that prevents invasion of competing nonosteogenic cells from the overlying soft tissues can be created. This environment provides the bony defect time to heal [39]. The use of GTR principles [40] enhanced the quality and quantity of bone regeneration in large periapical defects, especially in through-and-through lesions [41].

Summing up this article, we would like to show in [Figure 12](#) a comparison of sagittal CBCT scans of tooth 22 with different treatment by different doctors with an assessment of long-term results and four years after microsurgical treatment.



**FIGURE 12.** Comparison of sagittal CBCT scans of the tooth 22 upon different treatment by different doctors with assessment of long-term results (C) two and (D) four years after the microsurgery. (A) 2018; (B) 2020; (C) 2022; (D) 2024.

## CONCLUSION

The presented case report describes a difficult case that was resolved by endodontic microsurgery a positive outcome of which was enhanced by a two- and four-year follow-up. The use of PRF as an autologous graft in combination with a collagen membrane ensured complete healing, a good aesthetic result of soft tissues and the absence of any clinical signs and symptoms. Future long-term clinical observations and studies are needed to prove the effectiveness, predictability and success of this technique.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they don't have any conflicts of interest.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

WP and OT: Writing – original draft. WP and OT: Writing – review & editing.

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ЗВІТ ПРО ВИПАДОК/МЕТОДИКА

UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE

# Мікрохірургічне лікування великого наскрізного періапикального ураження з апікомаргінальним дефектом із застосуванням керованої тканинної регенерації (КТР): звіт про випадок із чотирирічним спостереженням

Вітольд Поповіч<sup>a,\*</sup> та Олександр Борисович Ткаченко<sup>b</sup>

## АНОТАЦІЯ

При тривалому періапикальному ураженні іноді спостерігається деструкція як вестибулярної, так і оральної кортикальних пластинок і навіть наскрізне періапикальне ураження. Успіх лікування знижується, коли до наскрізного періапикального ураження додається апікомаргінальний дефект. Великі періапикальні ураження слід спочатку лікувати за допомогою ортоградної терапії кореневих каналів. Якщо ознаки та симптоми інфекції не зникають після лікування, слід розглянути можливість хірургічного втручання. У цьому випадку 22-річна жінка з раніше розпочатим лікуванням була направлена на ендодонтичну мікрохірургію зуба 22 (тобто верхнього лівого бокового різця). Після ендодонтичного лікування пацієнтку направили до орального хірурга для апікоектомії та заміщення кісткового дефекту. Синус тракт (тобто нориця) в ділянці верхівки зуба 22 з моменту хірургічного втручання залишився

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Акронім «КТР» у верхньому правому значку означає, що стаття містить опис методики керованої тканинної регенерації (КТР) при ендодонтичній мікрохірургії.

Підкреслення літер в імені та прізвищі авторів вказує на наголоси при їх вимові.

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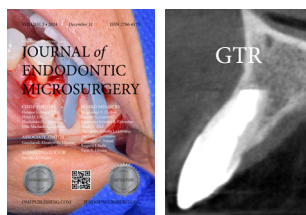
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активним. Виконано ендодонтичну мікрохірургію та керовану тканинну регенерацію. В статті представлено дані діагностики, а саме перед- та післяопераційні зображення конусно-променевої комп'ютерної томографії (через 2 та 4 роки), а також перед-, інтра- та післяопераційні клінічні зображення. Деталізовано всі перед- та інтраопераційні процедури і етапи. Зокрема, відокремлення з венозної крові збагаченого тромбоцитами фібрину (PRF, акронім англомовного терміну "platelet-rich fibrin"), ретроградне препарування з ультразвуковим наконечником і пристроєм із застосуванням стоматологічного операційного мікроскопу та використання колагенової мембрани для керованої тканинної регенерації (КТР) (синонім: направлена тканинна регенерація). Після дво- та чотирирічного спостереження рентгенологічне дослідження виявило загоєння, а клінічні ознаки та симптоми були відсутні. Відтоді пацієнт не повідомляв про жодні симптоми. В статті також аналізуються наукові джерела із застосування збагаченого тромбоцитами фібрину при кісткових дефектах щелеп та колагенових мембран. Також приділено увагу до формування клаптя при операціях такого типу. Виділено основні 6 фактори успіху в лікуванні таких складних випадків. Переосмислюючи попередньо виконану хірургічну маніпуляцію (апікоектомію) у даної пацієнтки, звернено увагу на основні 5 факторів, що могли сприяти невдачі.

### КЛЮЧОВІ СЛОВА

Наскрізне періапікальне ураження, апікомаргінальний дефект, синус тракт, ендодонтична мікрохірургія, керована тканинна регенерація (КТР)



OPIS PRZYPADKU/TECHNIKA

POLISH LANGUAGE

# Postępowanie mikrochirurgiczne z wykorzystaniem sterowanej regeneracji tkanek (GTR) w przypadku rozległej, perforującej przezwyrostkowo zmiany okołowierzchołkowej z jednoczesnym całkowitym pionowym zniszczeniem blaszki zbitej: Studium przypadku z czteroletnią obserwacją

Witold Popowicz<sup>a,\*</sup> i Oleksandr Tkachenko<sup>b</sup>

## STRESZCZENIE

Długotrwałe zapalne zmiany okołowierzchołkowe mogą prowadzić do uszkodzenia blaszki zbitej po stronie przedstonkowej jak i podniebiennej, a nawet do przezwyrostkowej perforacji wyrostka. Współistnienie zmiany okołowierzchołkowej perforującej wyrostek z całkowitą pionową utratą blaszki pogarsza rokowanie leczenia. W przypadku rozległych zmian okołowierzchołkowych leczeniem z wyboru jest leczenie kanałowe. Dopiero w przypadku utrzymywania się objawów radiologicznych i/lub klinicznych stanu zapalnego, należy rozważyć leczenie chirurgiczne. W artykule zaprezentowano przypadek 22-letniej pacjentki u której wykonano najpierw standardowe leczenie kanałowe zęba 22 a następnie została skierowana do chirurga na zabieg resekcji wierzchołka i odbudowę ubytku kostnego materiałem ksenogennym. Po przeprowadzonym leczeniu chirurgicznym z uwagi na utrzymującą się aktywną przetokę ropną w okolicy wierzchołka zęba 22 pacjentkę

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Skrót „GTR” w ikonie w prawym górnym rogu oznacza, że artykuł zawiera opis techniki sterowanej regeneracji tkanek (guided tissue regeneration [GTR]) stosowanej w mikrochirurgii endodontycznej.

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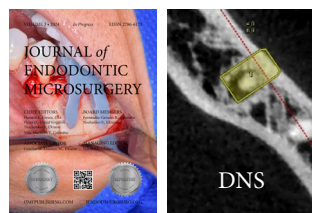
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skierowano na zabieg mikrochirurgii endodontycznej z zastosowaniem sterowanej regeneracji tkanek (z wypełnieniem ubytku kostnego osoczem bogatopłytkowym). W artykule zaprezentowano przebieg leczenia, począwszy od procedur diagnostycznych, poprzez pełną procedurę zabiegu mikrochirurgii endodontycznej oraz wyniki czteroletniej obserwacji. Przedstawiono przed- i pozabiegowe (po 2 i 4 latach) obrazy z CBCT a także przed-, śród- i pozabiegowe zdjęcia kliniczne. Szczegółowo opisano wszystkie procedury i etapy przed- i śródzabiegowe, w szczególności przygotowanie fibryny bogatopłytkowej (PRF) z krwi żyłnej, preparację wsteczną za pomocą końcówki ultradźwiękowej z użyciem mikroskopu zabiegowego oraz zastosowanie błony zaporowej. Czteroletnia obserwacja kliniczna i radiologiczna wykazała ustąpienie objawów, wygojenie przetoki ropnej oraz odbudowę kości wyrostka zębodołowego szczęki. W artykule przeprowadzona została analiza naukowa stosowania PRF i błon kolagenowych w ubytkach kostnych szczęki i żuchwy. Zwrócono również uwagę na technikę preparacji płata podczas tego typu zabiegów. Wyróżniono sześć głównych czynników decydujących o powodzeniu w leczeniu tak złożonych przypadków. Analizując uprzednio wykonany zabieg chirurgiczny apicektomii u pacjentki, zwrócono uwagę na pięć głównych czynników, które mogły przyczynić się do niepowodzenia procedury.

### SŁOWA KLUCZOWE

Przezwyrostkowa perforująca zmiana okołowierzchołkowa, apiko-marginalny ubytek kostny [MC1], przetoka, mikrochirurgia endodontyczna, sterowana regeneracja tkanek (GTR)





CASE REPORT/TECHNIQUE

DYNAMIC NAVIGATION SYSTEM (DNS)

# Endodontic Microsurgery of a Mandibular Molar Using a Dynamic Navigation System (DNS) and Cortical Window Technique: Case Report

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## ABSTRACT

Recent advancements in endodontic surgery have significantly improved outcomes through enhanced technology, including digital planning, cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), and operating microscopes. The integration of dynamic navigation systems (DNSs) has particularly transformed endodontic microsurgery (EM) by providing real-time guidance and precision. This case report explores the application of DNS in a clinical case of EM involving a mandibular first molar with symptomatic apical periodontitis. A 36-year-old male patient presented with masticatory pain in the lower left quadrant. Radiographic and CBCT evaluations revealed an underfilled mesiolingual canal and a periapical lesion. The surgical procedure utilized DNS for precise osteotomy and apicectomy, guided by the Navident® system and incorporating the cortical window technique. Postoperative care included antibiotic therapy and follow-up appointments, demonstrating successful periapical healing at 21 months. DNS technology significantly enhances precision and conservativeness in EM, allowing for real-time guidance and minimizing iatrogenic risks. The cortical window technique, combined with DNS, facilitates effective root access while preserving bone structure. Despite its advantages, DNS is associated with high costs and a steep learning curve. Future research should focus on evaluating the long-term clinical outcomes of DNS, improving system usability, and exploring its applications in other endodontic

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The acronym "DNS" in the upper right icon means that the article contains a description of endodontic microsurgery with application of dynamic navigation system (DNS).

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procedures. This case report demonstrates the successful use of DNS in conjunction with the cortical window technique for EM, achieving favorable clinical outcomes and promoting accelerated healing. Further studies are needed to validate the broader clinical utility of DNS and to refine its integration into routine practice.

## KEY WORDS

Apicoectomy, surgery, computer-assisted, case reports, microsurgery, osteotomy, cone-beam computed tomography

## INTRODUCTION

The endodontic surgery field has evolved due to technological advancements in various equipment, diagnostic aids, techniques, and materials. More recently, the implementation of digital planning has favored the execution, predictability, and prognosis of the procedure [1]. The transition to computer aided 3D systems have represented a breakthrough, leading to higher success rates compared to conventional endodontic surgery [2].

Cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) and magnification have become indispensable tools in endodontic microsurgery (EM). The digital workflow now incorporates navigation systems for both surgical and non-surgical endodontic procedures, primarily employing two techniques: static navigation and dynamic navigation [1-3]. Dynamic navigation, a computer-guided technology initially developed for precise and real-time planning in oral implantology, utilizes cameras and tracking devices attached to the handpiece and the patient. The system continuously compares the access path using software on the CBCT images, providing the clinician with information related to the milling path, which is visually displayed on a monitor [4].

Dynamic navigation systems (DNSs) have emerged as valuable tools in endodontics, finding application in various procedures, including the management of obliterated canals, post removal, and EM [2, 5-7]. A key advantage of DNS over static navigation is the elimination of the need for guide fabrication, enabling faster patient treatment [7]. Static guides, on the other hand, can pose challenges in accessing posterior regions, particularly when interocclusal space is limited [5]. Additionally, static guides can increase the risk of bone overheating due to inadequate irrigation, among other potential complications [2, 8].

The DNS uses instruments that help to perform more precise procedures at different surgical stages. For example, during osteotomy, it allows for a smaller access, which favors the repair process. This case report documented EM in a mandibular first molar

using the Navident® DNS (ClaroNav, Toronto, Canada), applying the cortical window technique. Clinical and CBCT follow-up at 21 months showed a successful outcome in periapical healing.

## CASE REPORT

### Patient Presentation

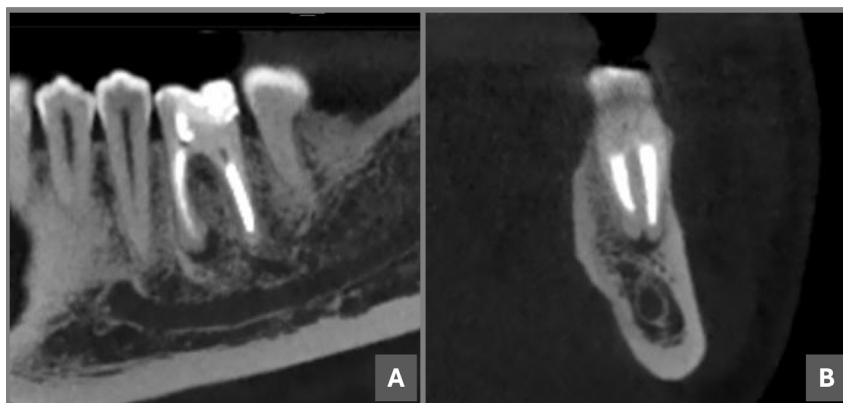
A 36-year-old male with no significant medical history presented with chief complaint of pain on chewing in the lower left quadrant. Clinical examination revealed positive vertical percussion test on tooth #36 (i.e., lower left first molar), negative palpation, physiological mobility, and normal periodontal probing depths. No swelling or sinus tract was evident. CBCT analysis (Myray, Hyperion X9 tomograph, 75 microns, 6x4 window, Imola [BO], Italy) revealed an adequate coronal restoration, along with a previous endodontic treatment performed one year ago, where the mesiolingual canal was underfilled, while the mesiobuccal and distal canals were well obturated. A hypodense periapical area was identified in the mesial root (Fig 1), accompanied by a 4 mm diameter periapical lesion. The buccal cortical bone was intact, with a thickness of 5 mm to the root apex. Based on these findings, the tooth was diagnosed as previously treated with symptomatic apical periodontitis, classified according to the periapical index (PAI) CBCT PAI 3E [9].

### Surgical Procedure

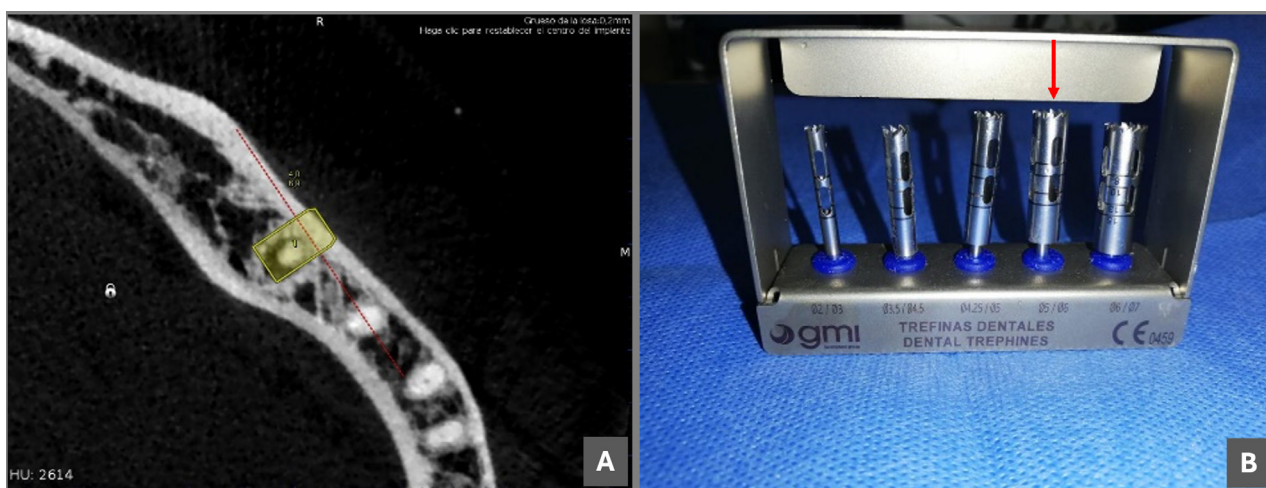
#### Preoperative Planning and Anesthesia

##### Pre-surgical Planning:

The surgical procedure commenced after obtaining informed consent and explaining treatment options. The Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) data from the CBCT scan was imported into the Navident® software for meticulous surgical planning (Fig 2A). The planned angulation was set at 0-10 degrees relative to the tooth's longitudinal axis, as recommended by some studies [5].



**FIGURE 1.** CBCT images of tooth #36 (i.e., lower left first molar). (A) Sagittal and (B) coronal view.



**FIGURE 2.** (A) Navident® software planning for trephine placement. (B) Trephine kit, the red arrow shows the trephine used.

### Pre-operative Preparation:

Before surgery, a thorough 60-second rinse with 0.12% chlorhexidine solution (PerioGard®, Colgate-Palmolive, Anchieta, Brazil) was performed for oral disinfection. Local anesthesia was achieved using 2 cartridges (3,6 mL) of lidocaine 2% with epinephrine 1:80,000 (Newcaína, New Stetic, Guarne, Colombia). The anesthetic technique involved an inferior alveolar nerve block and buccal infiltration. This ensures adequate pain control throughout the surgery by blocking the nerve that supplies sensation to the lower jaw and infiltrating the surrounding tissue with an anesthetic.

### Surgical Technique

A meticulous submarginal incision with a

scalloped margin was placed, followed by a full-thickness flap (mucoperiosteal) elevation for optimal visualization and surgical field access. Mesial and distal releasing incisions were employed to facilitate exposure of the intact cortical bone and allow for adequate flap mobility.

Utilizing the DNS and a 5 mm diameter trephine bur (Global Medical Implants [GMI], Lleida, Spain) attached to a contra-angle handpiece (NSK Brasil, Sao Paulo, Brazil) (Fig 2B), an osteotomy was performed at a speed of 10.000 revolutions per minute (rpm) under continuous saline irrigation for cooling and debris removal (Fig 3A). The DNS precisely guided the trephine bur, ensuring creation of a well-defined bone window and simultaneous apicectomy at the pre-planned angulation of 0 degrees relative to the tooth's longitudinal axis. The bone fragment was carefully retrieved and placed in



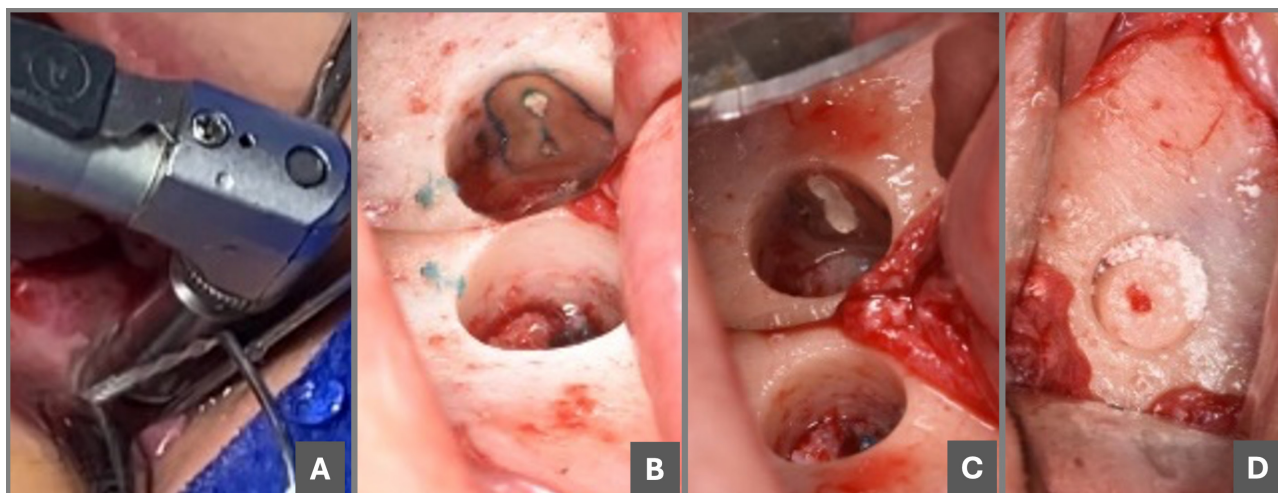
a sterile container with saline solution for potential grafting. The apical root segment, along with the associated periapical lesion, was meticulously removed with microsurgical instruments under high magnification.

The retropreparation cavity was subsequently stained with methylene blue (Disanfer, Bogotá, Colombia) to enhance visualization of the root canal orifice and facilitate precise cavity preparation (Fig 3B). Ultrasonic diamond tips (E30LD-S, NSK, Nakanishi, Japan) were employed in conjunction with the Biosonic S1 ultrasonic unit (Coltene Whaledent, Altstätten, Switzerland) for efficient and minimally invasive cavity shaping. Continuous saline irrigation was maintained throughout the procedure to ensure cooling and debris removal, followed by thorough drying with sterile paper points (New Stetic S.A.,

Guarne, Colombia).

Retrograde obturation of the prepared cavity was performed using BIO-C® Repair (Angelus, Londrina, Brazil) to create a hermetic seal and prevent bacterial leakage (Fig 3C). The carefully retrieved bone fragment was stabilized within the defect using 0.5 grams of xenograft bone with a particle size range of 300 to 600 microns (Biomod 3Biomat S.A.S, Bogotá, Colombia) to promote bone healing (Fig 3D). The mucoperiosteal flap was meticulously repositioned and sutured with 5-0 Dafilon sutures (B. Braun, Tuttlingen, Germany) for tension-free closure.

The entire surgical procedure was performed under the magnification of a surgical microscope OMS2350 (Zumax Medical, Suzhou, China) to ensure optimal visualization, precise handling of instruments, and meticulous attention to detail.



**FIGURE 3.** (A) Trephine positioning (B) Osteotomy and Navident-guided apicectomy with methylene blue staining. (C) Retrograde obturation with BIO-C® Repair. (D) "Cortical window" replacement and stabilization with Biomod bone graft.

### Postoperative Care and Follow-up

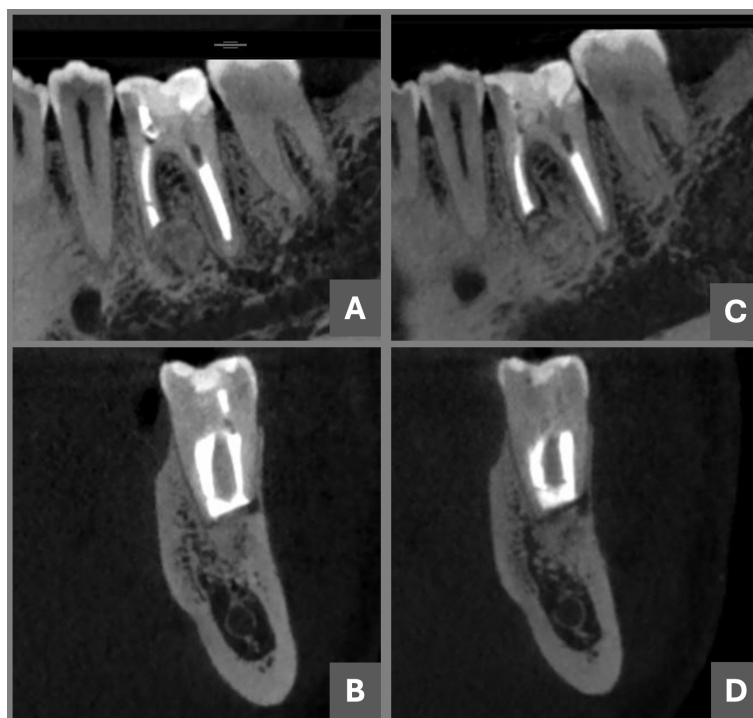
To prevent potential infections and promote healing, the patient was prescribed a regimen of Amoxal 500 mg capsules (GlaxoSmithKline [GSK], London, England) one capsule every 8 hours for 5 days, Anexia 120 mg tablets (Tecnoquímicas S.A., Cali, Colombia) one tablet daily, and a 0.12% chlorhexidine mouthwash twice daily. Additionally, topical application of fitostimoline gel oral (Euroetika S.A.S, Bogotá, Colombia) was recommended to promote healing.

The sutures were carefully removed 7 days

following the procedure. Follow-up appointments were scheduled at 6, 12, and 21 months to assess healing and ensure optimal outcomes. CBCT scans obtained at these follow-up visits revealed complete periapical healing (Fig 4), and the patient remained asymptomatic throughout the follow-up period.

### DISCUSSION

In the presented case, guided EM emerged as the preferred treatment approach due to the low likelihood of successful retreatment via an orthograde technique. This decision aimed to circumvent the



**FIGURE 4.** CBCT follow-up control of tooth #36. 12-month follow-up in (A) sagittal and (B) coronal views. 21-month follow-up in (C) sagittal and (D) coronal views.

potential risks associated with adverse events during non-surgical endodontic retreatment, particularly root perforation in the danger zone. By employing EM, conservative management of the furcation area was achieved, an area particularly susceptible to stripping-type perforations [10, 11].

DNS stands as a novel technology that significantly enhances precision during microsurgical endodontic procedures. It serves as a real-time guide for instrument orientation, fostering the protection of adjacent anatomical structures [6]. DNS enables a conservative approach during osteotomy, particularly in cases where cortical bone fenestration is absent or when the cortical thickness hinders access to the root apex. This conservative approach positively impacts bone healing time, as evidenced by the successful outcome in the presented case. However, DNS has drawbacks, including its high acquisition cost and the substantial space requirement due to the equipment's size [12]. Additionally, it presents a steeper learning curve than traditional techniques or static guides, demanding operator calibration, manual dexterity, and exceptional hand-eye coordination [4].

Currently, several systems facilitate a more conservative and precise osteotomy phase during

EM. One such system is the piezoelectric system, equipped with diverse tips that offer protection against nerve structure damage and minimize bleeding, enhancing visibility during the procedure [13-15]. Another option is the use of trephines, available in various diameters and lengths. Trephines allow for the preservation of the intact bone block that is removed, enabling its subsequent repositioning and, if necessary, fixation before flap replacement [12, 16].

Research suggests that computer-assisted static navigation techniques planned with trephines offer a cylindrical geometry that helps prevent unwanted deviations during osteotomy. This can result in greater accuracy in locating the root apex [17]. This technique, known as the "cortical window," facilitates faster healing, considering autologous bone's osteogenic, osteoinductive, and osteoconductive potential [14, 15]. Given the advantages mentioned above and others reported in the literature, the cortical window technique guided by DNS using a trephine was employed in the presented case. The primary objective was to preserve the bone structure, maintain the integrity of the vestibular cortical bone, facilitate access to the root to be treated, and enable successful apicectomy [12, 14, 18].

## CONCLUSION

This case report demonstrates the successful application of dynamic navigation system (DNS) combined with the cortical window technique using a trephine for endodontic microsurgery (EM) of a mandibular molar with a periapical lesion and intact buccal cortical bone. This minimally invasive approach facilitated precise osteotomy, root apex access, and retrograde filling, leading to successful periapical healing at the 21-month follow-up as confirmed by cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT).

### Key Advantages of the Technique:

- **Enhanced Precision:** DNS provides real-time guidance, minimizing the risk of iatrogenic complications during osteotomy and protecting vital structures.
- **Conservative Approach:** The cortical window technique allows for a smaller access cavity, preserving bone structure and promoting faster healing.
- **Autologous Bone Grafting:** Repositioning the retrieved bone fragment promotes osteoconduction and facilitates bone regeneration in the defect area.

### Future Directions:

While DNS offers significant benefits, further research is needed to evaluate its long-term cost-effectiveness compared to traditional techniques. Additionally, advancements in technology and user interface design can potentially reduce the learning curve associated with DNS.

### Overall Significance:

This case report highlights the potential of DNS-guided EM with the cortical window technique as a predictable and minimally invasive treatment option for managing complex endodontic cases with limited surgical access. This approach offers a promising future for improving surgical outcomes and patient care in EM.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization, G.A.C. and O.E.Z.; methodology, G.A.C., O.E.Z., and P.A.E-V.; software, G.A.C.; validation, G.A.C.; formal analysis, G.A.C.; investigation, G.A.C.; resources, G.A.C., O.E.Z., S.A.R-M., and P.A.E-V.; data curation, G.A.C., O.E.Z., S.A.R-M., and P.A.E-V.; writing—original draft preparation, G.A.C., O.E.Z., and P.A.E-V.; writing—review and editing, G.A.C., O.E.Z., S.A.R-M., and P.A.E-V.; visualization, G.A.C., O.E.Z., and P.A.E-V.; supervision, G.A.C., O.E.Z., and P.A.E-V.; project administration, G.A.C., O.E.Z., and P.A.E-V. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Informed consent was obtained from the patient for the publication of this study.

## DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

Not applicable.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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ЗВІТ ПРО ВИПАДОК/МЕТОДИКА

UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE

# Ендодонтична мікрохірургія моляра нижньої щелепи із використанням динамічної навігаційної системи (ДНС) і техніки кортикального вікна: опис випадку

Густаво Кастільо<sup>a,\*</sup>, Сільвія Рестрепо-Мендес<sup>b</sup>, Оскар Зулуага<sup>c</sup> та Паола Ескобар-Віллегас<sup>d</sup>

## АНОТАЦІЯ

Останні досягнення в ендодонтичній хірургії значно покращили результати завдяки вдосконаленій технології, включаючи цифрове планування, конусно-променево комп'ютерну томографію (КПКТ) та операційні мікроскопи. Інтеграція динамічних навігаційних систем (ДНС) особливо змінила ендодонтичну мікрохірургію (ЕМ), забезпечуючи вказівки в реальному часі та точність. У цьому звіті досліджується застосування ДНС у клінічному випадку ЕМ, що включає перший моляр нижньої щелепи з симптоматичним апікальним періодонтитом. Пацієнт чоловічої статі 36 років звернувся зі скаргами на біль при жуванні у лівому нижньому квадранті. Рентгенографія та КПКТ виявили недостатньо заповнений мезіолінгвальний кореневий канал і періапикальне ураження. Під час хірургічної процедури використовувалася ДНС для точної остеотомії та апікоектомії за допомогою системи Navident® і включала техніку кортикального вікна. Післяопераційний догляд включав антибіотикотерапію та

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Акронім «ДНС» у верхньому правому значку означає, що стаття містить опис ендодонтичної мікрохірургії із застосуванням динамічної навігаційної системи (ДНС).

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контрольні огляди, що продемонструвало успішне періапікальне загоєння через 21 місяць. Технологія ДНС значно підвищує точність і консервативність ЕМ, дозволяючи надавати вказівки в реальному часі та мінімізуючи ятрогенні ризики. Техніка кортикального вікна в поєднанні з ДНС полегшує ефективний доступ до кореня, зберігаючи структуру кістки. Незважаючи на свої переваги, ДНС пов'язаний з високими витратами та крутою кривою навчання. Майбутні дослідження мають бути зосереджені на оцінці довгострокових клінічних результатів ДНС, покращенні зручності використання системи та дослідженні її застосування в інших ендодонтичних процедурах. Цей випадок демонструє успішне використання ДНС у поєднанні з технікою кортикального вікна для ЕМ, що забезпечує сприятливі клінічні результати та сприяє прискоренню загоєння. Потрібні подальші дослідження, щоб підтвердити ширшу клінічну корисність ДНС і вдосконалити її інтеграцію в повсякденну практику.

### **КЛЮЧОВІ СЛОВА**

Апікоектомія, хірургія, комп'ютерна підтримка, описи випадків, мікροхірургія, остеотомія, конусно-променева комп'ютерна томографія





CASO CLÍNICO/TÉCNICA

SPANISH LANGUAGE

# Microcirugía endodóntica de un molar mandibular mediante un sistema de navegación dinámica (SND) y técnica de ventana cortical: reporte de caso

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## RESUMEN

Los recientes avances en la cirugía endodóntica han mejorado significativamente los resultados a través de una tecnología mejorada, que incluye la planificación digital, la tomografía computarizada de haz cónico (TCHC) y los microscopios quirúrgicos. La integración de los sistemas de navegación dinámica (SND) ha transformado particularmente la microcirugía endodóntica (ME) al proporcionar guía y precisión en tiempo real. Este informe de caso explora la aplicación de DNS en un caso clínico de ME que involucraba un primer molar mandibular con periodontitis apical sintomática. Un paciente masculino de 36 años presentó dolor masticatorio en el cuadrante inferior izquierdo. Las evaluaciones radiográficas y TCHC revelaron un conducto mesiolingual insuficientemente obturado y una lesión periapical. El procedimiento quirúrgico utilizó SND para una osteotomía y apicectomía precisas, guiadas por el sistema Navident® e incorporando la técnica de ventana cortical. El cuidado posoperatorio incluyó terapia con antibióticos y citas de seguimiento, demostrando una curación periapical exitosa a los 21 meses. La tecnología SND mejora significativamente la precisión y el carácter conservador en la ME, lo que permite una guía en tiempo real y minimiza los riesgos iatrogénicos. La técnica

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El acrónimo "SND" en el icono superior derecho significa que el artículo contiene una descripción de la microcirugía endodóntica con aplicación del sistema de navegación dinámica (SND).

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de ventana cortical, combinada con SND, facilita el acceso eficaz a la raíz al tiempo que preserva la estructura ósea. A pesar de sus ventajas, SND está asociada a altos costos y una curva de aprendizaje pronunciada. Las investigaciones futuras deben centrarse en evaluar los resultados clínicos a largo plazo de SND, mejorar la usabilidad del sistema y explorar sus aplicaciones en otros procedimientos endodóncicos. Este informe de caso demuestra el uso exitoso de SND junto con la técnica de ventana cortical para ME, logrando resultados clínicos favorables y promoviendo una curación acelerada. Se necesitan más estudios para validar la utilidad clínica más amplia de SND y refinar su integración en la práctica de rutina.

#### **PALABRAS CLAVE**

Apicectomía, cirugía, asistida por computadora, informes de casos, microcirugía, osteotomía, tomografía computarizada de haz cónico