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Sexual Dichotomy of Canine Teeth among South Indian Population Using Distal Accessory Ridge: A Nonmetric Trait

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Abstract

Aim

The phenotype of human dentition is said to be genetically determined and genes located on sex chromosomes that influence development of tooth could be attributed to gender dimorphism. The aim of the present study was to evaluate gender discrepancy in Distal Accessory Ridge [DAR] of canine tooth among South Indian population.

Method

A study sample comprising of 120 medical and para medical students, 15 males and 15 females of age group 18–20 yrs from each of the south Indian states [Andrapradesh (AP), Karnataka (KA), Kerala (KL) and Tamil Nadu (TN)] were evaluated for Canine DAR expression [CDAR]. The Arizona State University Dental Anthropology System [ASUDAS] of classification was used to score DAR on plaster cast models. The results were analyzed using descriptive statistical analysis.

Results

Overall sample of 120 pair of plaster models were analyzed. The DAR was more frequent and pronounced in males [85%] than in females [69%]. When compared with lower canine [78.3%M, 41.6%F] the trait was predominant in upper canine [91.6%M, 73.3%F]. States like TN and KA showed gender discrepancy that were of statistical significance for Upper [U] and Lower [L] canine which had scoring from 0 to 4 and 0 to 3 respectively, while scores of AP and KL showed discrepancy that were not statistically significant.

Conclusion

In the present study gender dimorphism among the states follows as TN, KA, AP and KL on both upper and lower canines. However LC could benefit in gender determination attributing to its feature of higher discrepancy.