



Dental Anatomy

Lecture (5)

MAXILLARY LATERAL INCISORS

Maxillary lateral incisors resembles the maxillary central incisor in function, form and anatomy, but is generally smaller in all dimensions except the length of the root.

Principles identifying features of maxillary lateral incisor

1. The crown is more rounded, shorter and narrower mesio-distally than the maxillary central incisor.
2. The mesio-incisal angle is acute and the disto-incisal angle is more rounded.
3. It has a single root with a tapered, distally curved, pointed apex.
4. The lingual fossa is more concave than that of the maxillary central incisor.

Labial Aspect

1. The crown is shorter and narrower than that of the maxillary central, but the root is as long as that of the maxillary central incisor or longer.
2. The labial surface of the crown is more convex than that of the maxillary central incisor.
3. The mesial outline resembles that of the maxillary central incisor with more rounded mesio-incisal angle, with the crest of curvature (contact point) located between the middle and incisal third.
4. The distal outline is more rounded with crest of curvature (contact point) located at the center of the middle third.

5.The root tapers evenly and curved distally at the apex.

6.A line drawn through the center of the root and the crown tends to parallel the mesial outline of the crown and root.

Lingual Aspect

1.The mesial and distal marginal ridges and the lingual portion of the incisal ridge are well marked with a more concave lingual fossa.

2.The cingulum is prominent with a tendency toward seeing a deep developmental groove within the lingual fossa.

Mesial Aspect

1.The crown is narrower labiolingually than the maxillary central incisor.

2.The curvature of the cervical line is less than that of the maxillary central incisor.

3.The root appears as a tapered cone and a line bisecting the root bisects the incisal ridge which is well developed.

Distal Aspect

1.The curvature of the cervical line distally is less than that of the mesial side.

2.It is not uncommon to find a developmental groove extending to the root.

Incisal Aspect

1.The incisal aspect resembles that of the maxillary central incisor,but;

(A) The cingulum and incisal ridge may be large.

(B) The labio-lingual to mesio-distal measurement is larger,therefore,it resembles as a small canine.

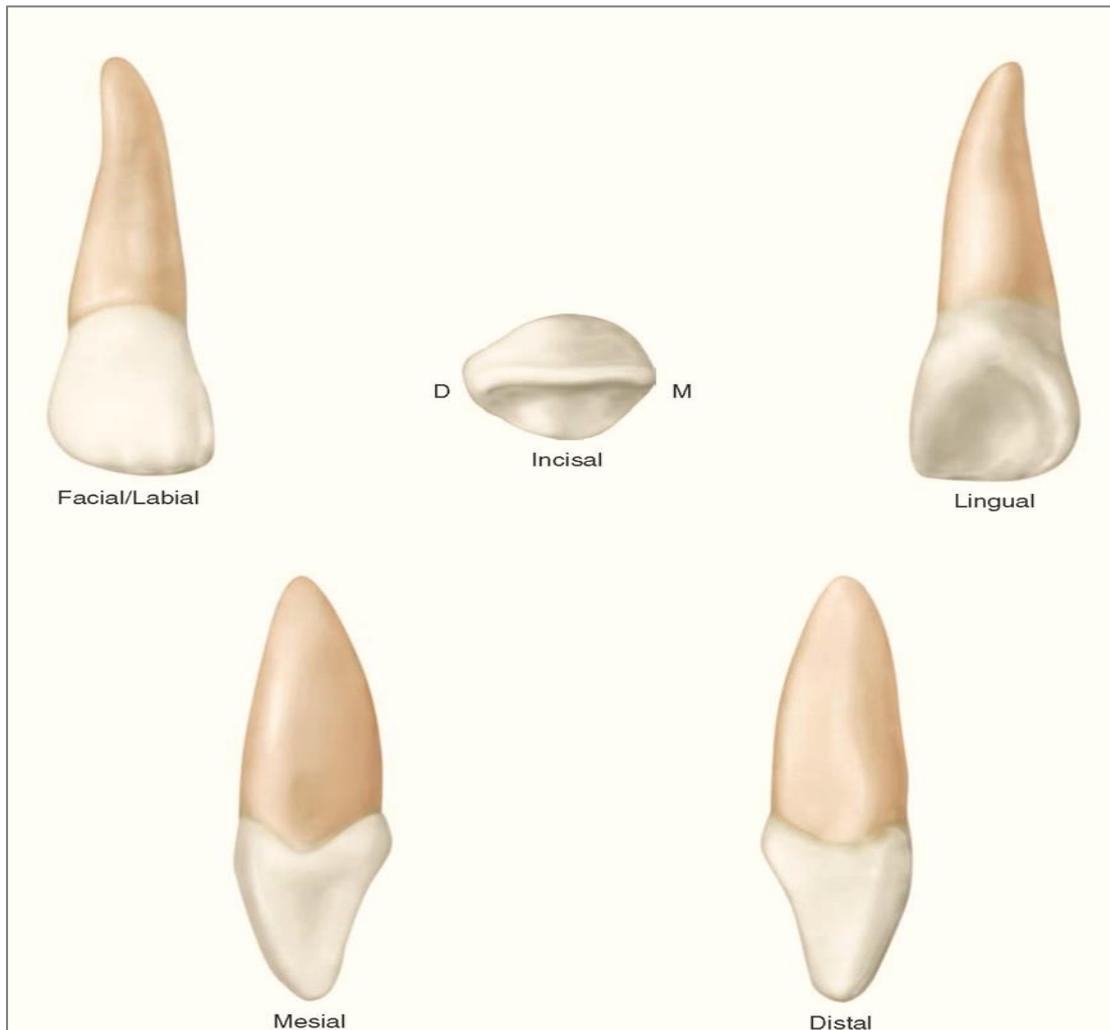
2.From the incisal aspect, all maxillary lateral incisors exhibit more convexity labially and lingually.

Variations from the typical form (Anomalies)

1.Peg-shaped lateral incisor, with a thin root and a small conical crown.

2.The maxillary lateral incisor may be congenitally missing.

3. Large developmental groove on the distal aspect extending to the root.



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