

# MICRODONTIA

## SYNONYMS

- Abnormally small teeth

## ETIOLOGY

- Both inherited and environmental factors appear to play a role in the development of microdontia.

## TYPICAL CLINICAL FEATURES

- Microdontia can affect a single tooth (focal microdontia) or all the teeth in the dentition (generalized microdontia).
- The teeth most commonly affected in focal microdontia are the maxillary lateral incisors (peg lateral) and maxillary third molars.
- Generalized microdontia occurs in Down syndrome and pituitary dwarfism.
- Supernumerary teeth are often microdonts.

## OTHER USEFUL CLINICAL INFORMATION

- More common in females.
- Focal microdontia is more common than generalized microdontia.
- Often associated with hypodontia (missing teeth).

## DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- An accurate diagnosis can be made based solely on clinical features.

## DIAGNOSTIC STEPS

- No diagnostic steps other than recognition of the typical clinical features.

## TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Appropriate restorative therapy.

## FOLLOW-UP

- Periodic re-evaluation



Focal microdontia affecting a maxillary lateral incisor tooth (peg lateral).



A supernumerary tooth exhibiting microdontia.



Diffuse microdontia in an individual with Down's syndrome.



Focal microdontia affecting a maxillary lateral incisor tooth (peg lateral).