



# DMDI NEWS

dental & medical diagnostic imaging

*A Centre of Excellence*



## Newsletter 9

July 2010

### Imaging of Wisdom Teeth with Cone Beam CT.

One of the predominant dental issues in the 17 – 25 year old age group involves impaction of the wisdom teeth. Impaction, infection, damage, crowding and cysts are only some of the adverse issues which may occur with wisdom teeth.

Within this area is the issue of appropriate imaging for the safe extraction of these teeth, in particular the mandibular 3<sup>rd</sup> molars.

At DMDI Cone Beam CT (CBCT) scanning provides fine sliced 3D imaging of these areas allowing visualisation of all four surfaces of the tooth, as well as the relationship between the (wisdom) tooth and the alveolar canal or maxillary sinus (depending on the quadrant).

CBCT is becoming the preferred method of imaging for the 3<sup>rd</sup> molars providing

1. More accurate assessment of tooth position and affect on immediate region
2. Shorter examination and scan times
3. The patient is seated rather than laying down
4. The unit is completely open allowing a claustrophobic patient to be successfully imaged
5. Significantly lower radiation dose compared with conventional helical CT scans
6. High detail in 3D format
7. Increased image quality as the Accuitomo 170 CBCT technology is designed specifically for small structures of the mouth and face
8. The CBCT allows for exceptionally fine slice thickness and definition, with increased image quality.

With one 17 second scan of the patient's dentition an host of information can be gleaned via the post processed cross sections (emailed on the day) and a computer disc (CD) provided within two (2) to three (3) days post the scan. This CD carries copies of the cross sections and radiologist report, along with a 3D CBCT file that allows the clinician quick and easy assessment and viewing of the area/s of concern. Urgent cases are able to be processed quicker, and need to be noted on the referral form.

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Unit 9 1175 Toorak Road Camberwell Victoria 3124  
Mon to Fri 8.30am to 5pm, by appointment



If you require a referral pad you can write to us at [referral@dmdi.com.au](mailto:referral@dmdi.com.au) or simply go to our web page at [www.dmdi.com.au](http://www.dmdi.com.au) and download a form. If you wish to speak with our radiographer, please call 03 9889 1771.  
Location - Unit 9 1175 Toorak Road Camberwell Victoria 3124

## Imaging

Of course, we also provide standard OPG imaging for baseline imaging of the dentition. Images taken (example shown below) are able to be emailed, usually within one hour of the examination, which allows for urgent dental cases to be catered for. A full Radiologist report will follow within 24 to 48 hours. Please note, the OPG scan and report is able to be emailed and/or provided on computer disc and sent via mail. This procedure (OPG) is currently bulk billed, on presentation of a valid Medicare card and referral form.

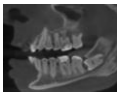


## Cone Beam CT (CBCT)

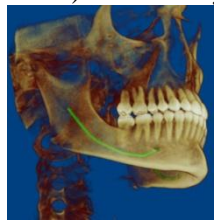
If extraction is decided upon a CBCT may be used to assess

- dental root positioning
- localization of impacted or supernumerary teeth
- Nerve position

Cross sectional analysis can also be emailed to you on the same day your patient visits DMDI. A nerve tracing with cross sections and measurements is also available to you, a Radiologist report, together with a comprehensive 3D volume (Morita, One Volume Viewer) is sent to you on disc, at no charge.



*CBCT Sagittal View*



*Nerve location*

CBCT has improved the evaluation, treatment planning and potential complications for impacted teeth. It is particularly useful for interpretation of the relationship between the tooth and the mandibular canal, adjacent teeth, sinus wall or cortical border.



The referring dentist's requirement for emailed cross sections must be notated on the referral form, along with the dentist's email address. This procedure is not bulk-billed and will be charged at \$350 with a Medicare rebate due back to the patient of approximately \$200.

### **Commencement of new Medical Imaging Technologist/Radiographer**

We would like to introduce our newest staff member and Medical Imaging Technologist, Susan Hutchinson. Susan has developed a keen interest in Dental Radiography following employment in Sydney's Westmead Hospital. Rostered on a regular basis to the Westmead Dental Clinical School she gained valuable clinical and imaging experience which she has brought to the practice. She has also has experience in CT, lecturing and public speaking experience (wrote and presented a literature research paper on ORN OF THE MANDIBLE AND MAXILLA). Susan looks forward to working with you, and your referred patients, extending her knowledge and expertise in this area.

### **Notice of Professional Development (PD) session**

It is proposed that a PD session on CBCT and Orthodontics, will be held at DMDI on Wednesday 06 October 2010, from 6.30pm to approximately 8pm.

Keep this date free in your diaries, and further details will be published in the August and September DMDI 2010 newsletters.

**For note:** For private patients, the cost of CBCT scans will be \$350, effective 01 August 2010. Patients may expect a refund of approximately \$200 from Medicare.

Please contact Pamela Gilbert on 9889 1771 or 0488 080 100 if you would like to place a free advertisement for your practice here.