

Estimation of stature with the help of radiographic tooth length

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ABSTRACT

Background: Stature is fundamental in personal identification for forensic and physical anthropology. When a full skeleton is not available, stature can be estimated from incomplete human remains. Teeth form an excellent material for anthropological, genetic, odontologic and forensic investigations. However, there is no research work on correlation between stature and tooth length on Indian population. This study has been undertaken to see the possible correlation between the teeth length and the height of the individual.

Objective: To compare and correlate the tooth length (radiographic) with the stature of individuals.

Methodology: The sample comprised of dentitions from 60 individuals (30 females and 30 males), all young adults between 20 and 30 years. Height will be measured as the vertical distance from the vertex to floor. Orthopantomogram (OPG) will be taken to evaluate the tooth length of all the teeth except 3rd molars. The tooth length will be measured in digital OPG, using software [PLANMECA].

Results and Conclusion: Correlation analysis revealed that all the tooth length variables had a low, albeit, statistically significant correlation to stature. This indicates that the tooth length may be used as a parameter in estimating stature, when there are no long bones available, which are better predictors of height.