

A Case of Incisor Teeth Malocclusion in a Rabbit

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Introduction: All teeth in Lagomorphs are grow continually throughout their life. This makes rabbits more susceptible to dental disease. Malocclusion is common dental problem in lagomorph. It can treated by some dental procedures.

Material and methods: A six-month-old male rabbit was presented to the Veterinary Medical Center of Chungbuk National University with food intake distress.

Results: Physical examination was normal but oral examination showed malocclusion of incisors. However, occlusions of the cheek teeth were normal. The radiographs of skull showed no visible problems from other regions except malocclusion of incisors. Odontoplasty was performed to treat malocclusion of maxillary incisors. Two weeks after crown reduction, approximate odontoplasty period were predicted by measuring the rate of incisors growth. After second odontoplasty, extraction of maxillary incisors was decided and performed.

Clinical relevance: Conservative treatment in continuously growing teeth in rodents and lagomorphs is often unsatisfactory in the long term, because of necessity of repeat the procedure at frequent intervals and often resulting in pulp exposure. Extraction have been thought as a alternative treatment. To prevent tooth regrowth, atraumatic gentle extraction technique is recommended.

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