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A follow-up study of 51 cases treated by endodontic microsurgery

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I. Objectives

The aim of this study was to investigate the success rate of endodontic microsurgery.

II. Materials and Methods

Three calibrated examiners evaluated a total of 51 teeth that were treated with endodontic microsurgery in Samsung Medical Center, Seoul, Korea, during the period of 1996-2000. The periapical radiographs were evaluated and compared with the pre-operative and follow-up radiographs. In addition, a standardized questionnaire was used to assess the clinical status of each tooth. The data was integrated and each case was categorized as being a clinical success, questionable success or a failure.

III. Results

A t-test and Fisher' s exact test were used to analyze the correlation between various factors such as age, gender, tooth location and success rate. The overall clinical success rate was 82.3%, and no factor appeared to significantly affect the outcome of the endodontic microsurgery.

IV. Conclusions

When conventional endodontic approach fails, endodontic microsurgery may be a good alternative treatment option. Nevertheless, further research will be needed to confirm the validity of these results.