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| **Name:** |
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| **Group:** |
| 1B-2 |
| **Pathology Question:** |
| What is a vertical root fracture? |
| **Report:** |
| A vertical root fracture is a longitudinally oriented fracture of the root that originates from the apex and propagates to the coronal aspect of the tooth. According to the Journal of Conservative Dentistry these fractures are the third most common reason for extraction of a tooth that has been endodontically treated. There are several plausible risk factors that increase the chances of a vertical root fracture such as narrow roots of a tooth, stiffer and more dehydrated roots due to endodontic treatment, internal cracks indured during RCT, as well other stresses on the tooth. After reading through the article on vertical root fractures and their management, it was apparent that the diagnosis of these fractures are often problematic and often involve a differential diagnosis. While there aren’t definitive symptoms, patients who have a vertical root fracture sometimes experience mild pain, spontaneous pain when eating, a pocket between the gum and the tooth near the site of fracture, and a draining sinus tract. In most cases, the best treatment for a vertical root fracture is removal of the tooth. Preventative measures are encouraged during routine clinical procedures to avoid fracture. |
| **References:** |
| <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4001262/>   |  | | --- | | Khasnis SA, Kidiyoor KH, Patil AB, Kenganal SB. Vertical root fractures and their management. J Conserv Dent 2014;17:103-10 | |