

AUTHOR NANAYAKKARA, CD

ORIGINAL TITLE The Chronological age and sequence of eruption of the permanent dentition of children in the Kandy district of Sri Lanka

DEGREE PhD

YEAR 1988

INSTITUTE University of Peradeniya

LOCATION UP(MED)

MAIN HEADING DENTITION

ABSTRACT Studies regarding chronology of tooth eruption have been reported from many parts of the world. This data has been of importance in clinical, anthropological and medico-legal work. Use of the chronology of tooth eruption as a measure of maturational status will prove to be of even greater importance. Information regarding the chronology of eruption of the permanent dentition in Sri_ Lanka is scanty. In the present study 2860 males and 2767 females, 5 to 16 years of age, in the Kandy district of Sri Lanka were examined in order to establish norms for tooth eruption for Sri Lankan children. The children were grouped according to sex, age and socio-economic status. The times of eruption of teeth were calculated using a modification of Karber's method. All teeth in the females erupted significantly earlier ($P < 0.01$) than the corresponding teeth in males. An average difference of 4.4 months between the mean age of eruption of the males and females was observed showing females to be more mature than males at any given age with regard to tooth eruption. The existence of this highly significant sex difference necessitated the tooth eruption to be sex specific. A definite influence of the socio-economic status on tooth eruption was evident from the results of this study, the children of the high socio-economic group showing advanced eruption times. The sequence of eruption of teeth has been shown to be group specific. The sequence of eruption established for the Sinhalese race as follows : Males, Females (Refer the original thesis) Using the relationship between the clinical emergence of teeth in the oral cavity and the chronological age a simple measure of maturational status for Sri Lankan children between the ages of 5 and 12 years has been established. The growth curves drawn using heights for males and females of the present study are very similar to the established curves for a representative sample of Sri Lanka. The sample from the Kandy district may therefore be also taken as representative of the population of Sri Lanka.