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The Reliability of Cameriere's Age Estimation Method among Malay Children

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Objective: The objective of this study was to evaluate the reliability of Cameriere's method amongst Malay children.

Materials and methods: This was a cross-sectional study, in which 162 orthopantomograms (OPGs) of Malay children (81 boys, and 81 girls) with the age range from 2 to 14 years old, were collected from Planmeca Romexis® software at the Kulliyyah of Dentistry, IIUM. Inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied. The evaluation was carried out on each OPG. Measurement of seven left permanent mandibular teeth was carried out by using Cameriere's method on the Adobe Photoshop CS3® to determine the dental age (DA). Chronological age (CA) was subtracted from the records based on the patients' date of birth. Finally, the dental age and chronological age of the patients were compared.

Results: The method yielded a mean prediction error (ME) of 0.54 years for boys and 0.51 years for girls. The ME was found to be slightly underestimated by -0.23 years for boys -0.17 years for girls.

Conclusion: Cameriere's method can be recommended for practical application in clinical and forensic dentistry for the Malay population.

Keywords: *Chronological age, dental age, Cameriere's method*