

# Dental Anatomy

Lec -1

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## Introduction

**Dental anatomy** is defined as the study of the development, morphology, function, and identity of each of the teeth in the human dentition.

## Nomenclature

**Dense** = tooth

**Dental** = anything related to teeth

Man is a **heterodont**, which means that he has different-shaped teeth.

Man is a **diphyodont**, which means that he has two sets of teeth; deciduous teeth (primary teeth) and permanent teeth.

## The Deciduous Teeth

At birth, there are no teeth present in the mouth, but many teeth in various stages of development are found in the jaws.

After birth (post-natal period), the eruption of deciduous teeth starts at six months and lasts until two and a half years.

The deciduous teeth stay until the permanent teeth erupt at about 6 years of age, when the transition to the permanent dentition begins.

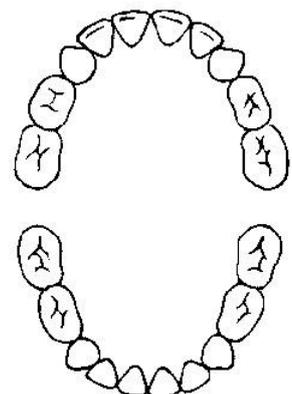
The deciduous teeth are 20 in number. They have the following formula:

$$I \frac{2}{2} \quad C \frac{1}{1} \quad M \frac{2}{2} = 10 \text{ (for each side)}$$

I = Incisors (central and lateral).

C = Canine.

M = Molars (first and second).



## **The Permanent Teeth**

The transition to permanent dentition begins with the emergence and eruption of the first permanent molars at the age of six years, followed by shedding of the deciduous teeth and emergence and eruption of the remaining permanent teeth. This process requires about 20 years to be completed. The number of permanent teeth, including third molars when present, is 32.

$$I \frac{2}{2} \quad C \frac{1}{1} \quad P \frac{2}{2} \quad M \frac{3}{3} = 16 \text{ (for each side)}$$

I = Incisors (central and lateral).

C = Canine.

P = Premolars (first and second).

M = Molars (first, second and third).

## **Anterior and Posterior Teeth**

Teeth are grouped into:

1. Anterior teeth which include the incisors and the canines.
2. Posterior teeth which include the premolars and molars.

## **The Jaw**

The jaw is the bone which carries the teeth. There are two jaws:

1. The upper jaw, which is fixed, and is called "The Maxilla".
2. The lower jaw, which is movable, and is called "The Mandible".

