Anatomical sciences and pediatric dentistry

Intimate knowledge and understanding of the anatomical sciences is paramount in the safe and complete performance of pediatric dentistry. To achieve better results in dental procedures in children and to avoid complications during these procedures, it is essential to establish the location and course of the anatomical structures, particularly the anatomical variations, in the region. There is always a probability of the existence of an anatomical variation that may be developmental, congenital or acquired. Misdiagnosing or overlooking these kind of anatomical variations may lead to neurovascular complications during or after the procedures such as orthodontic corrections, regional anesthesia, implant placement and surgical correction of jaw deformities in children. Besides, knowledge of variation anatomy provides superiority in radiologic interpretation and oral rehabilitation. The training of pediatric dentistry should include a thorough understanding of how the anatomy lectures should be given. This presentation aims to discuss if enough value has been being put on the importance of anatomy in pediatric dentistry training and if pediatric dentists’ performances rely on sound anatomy knowledge. Additionally, the presentation will try to refer the audience think on what should be the limits of anatomy course and how should it be taught through the training of pediatric dentistry.

Biography

Huseyin Avni Balcioglu holds the position of Associate Professor in the Department of Anatomy at Istanbul University Faculty of Dentistry. After receiving his Dental degree from Istanbul University Faculty of Dentistry, in 2001, he worked as a Research Assistant in the department of Anatomy, for five years and completed the PhD program, while he also worked in private dental practice. He took part in administrative activities associated with his roles as a faculty board member. He is currently a member of the Board of Medical Specialties Reporting System Commission (TUKMOS) of Turkish Ministry of Health. He has lectured as an invited speaker in different symposiums, particularly about TMJ/TMD. His research interests relate primarily to TMJ/TMD, radiologic anatomy and anatomy education.

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