

RADIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS OF MALOCCLUSIONS IN LAGOMORPHS.

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INTRODUCTION

Dental malocclusion is a very common problem in lagomorphs practice (they represent over 28% of the pathologies in this species) and in many cases, prognosis is very serious.

Etiology is multifactorial, since traumatic, genetic (malformations) and alimentary problems, among others, are involved

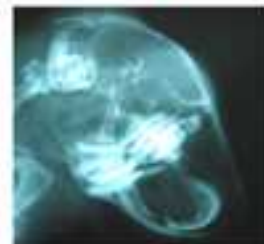
RESULTS

In the present study several lateral-I radiographs of crania of healthy rabbits affected by different types of malocclusion and in different grades, are used.

Some references over radiographs are taken, in order to define some lines and planes, which we must observe and depending on their variations (in form, angles...) they allow us to classify the type of malocclusion, its treatment (when possible) and what is more important, its prognosis.

This lines and planes are (Fig. 1):

- 1. Orbital line
- 2. Trajectory of the nasolacrimal duct.
- 3. The apexes of upper P and M constitute the roof of a "little house" and do not enter the orbit.
- 4. Occlusal surface of upper and lower P and M shows zigzag.
- 5. Mandible cortical edge is complete.
- 6. The apexes of 301 and 401 reach a height corresponding to half the length of first lower premolars.
- 7. The apexes of 101 and 201 do not reach contact with the palatine bone.



Malar and incisors malocclusions. Abscess formation and cortical destruction.



Incisors malocclusions

DISCUSSION

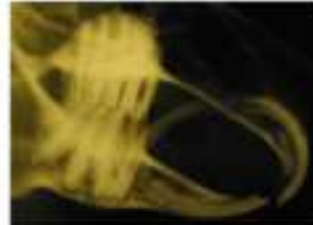
Malocclusions in rabbits lead to many problems, from anorexia to retrobulbar abscesses, pathological mandible fractures and eventually they lead to the animal's death.

Assessing the lateral radiographs of rabbit cranium we can give an early diagnose of this problem, solve it and take the measures of hygiene, feeding and management to avoid its progression.



Ulcerate lesions in tongue

Malar malocclusions. Abscess formation and cortical destruction.



1st lower premolar malocclusion



Abscess formation and cortical destruction.

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions we should obtain is that the oral cavity in rabbits should always be explored, the jaw bone felt, make an ocular exploration...

This exploration must be always accompanied of a lateral radiograph of the rabbit cranium at least every 6-12 months, besides sedation of the animal is not necessary to take it. It is important to remember that rabbit dentition is adapted to strict herbivore diets, which are very abrasive and therefore the equilibrium between teeth erosion and growth is maintained.