

Summary of Adverse Incidents in Orthodontics 2011

1. Fractured TAD

15 year old female patient. Mini implant fractured during palatal insertion. Highly likely this is because it got stuck into the handpiece. Manufacturer of TAD not reported.
Operator - Trainee orthodontist

2. Fractured TAD

16 year old female patient. Palatal mini-implant placed between UR5 and 6 using infinitas system including the stent, infinitas handpiece. The implant fractured. It was stuck firmly into the infinitas mini-screw driver insert and it was impossible to remove after the procedure (outside the mouth). The mini-implant in the upper right quadrant was removed by an oral surgeon through raising a flap.
Operator - Trainee orthodontist

3. Fractured Beak of Distal End Cutter

37 year old female patient. Fractured of tip of Hu-Friedy distal end cutters. Fractured while in patients mouth when cutting end of 0.018X0.025 SS archwire. Pt was supine. Pt is an adult who was able to retrieve fractured portion from mouth. No adverse effect but in a younger child the piece could easily have been inhaled. Action - returning end cutters to supplier. Reported in British Orthodontic Society
Operator-Specialist (Con)

4. Fractured Beak of Distal End Cutter

24 year old male patient. Beak of distal end cutters crumbled in patients mouth while cutting rectangular stainless steel wire. Instrument of indeterminate age, Forestadent E200 distal end cutters. No harm caused to patient on this occasion but potential for patient to inhale or ingest especially in younger patient.
Operator- Specialist orthodontist

5. Ingested Section of Archwire

14 year old female patient attended on 21st October 2011, with her mother, and reported that she lost a piece of wire from her fixed orthodontic appliance 1 week previously. She thought she might have swallowed it. She had had some stomach ache since then. On examination approximately 1cm length of wire was missing from the lower fixed appliance. Another member of her family had stomach ache that week. Patient was referred to local hospital with sample piece of wire. An abdominal radiograph taken showed a possible radio-opacity in the duodenum, but a subsequent radiograph 4 days later showed no sign of any wire".
Operator- Specialist orthodontist