

Case of the Month

August 2006

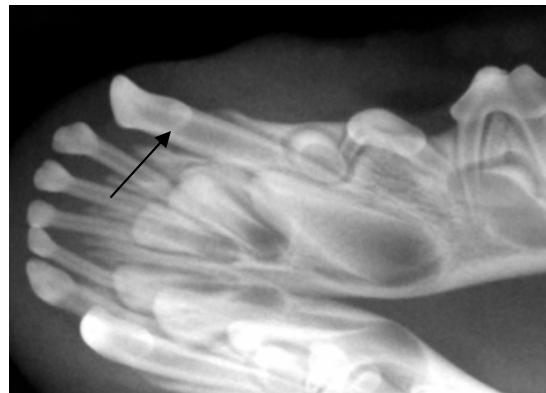
History and Signalment: 9-week-old Bichon Frise presented for routine vaccinations.

Physical Exam: The deciduous left mandibular canine tooth was hitting the palate. The length of mandible was shorter than normal.

Diagnosis: Class 2 malocclusion with a base narrow left canine.



Photo showing traumatic occlusion of mandibular canine tooth.



Radiograph of left side of mandible showing deciduous and unerupted permanent teeth. The arrow points to the base narrow canine.



Photo showing the traumatic indentation in the palatal mucosa.



Photo of mouth after extraction.

Treatment: Extraction was the best option in this case, but there are other options for treatment depending on the severity of the problem. Radiographs are needed to avoid damaging permanent tooth buds. Base narrow deciduous canine teeth are a common finding. Treatment should be done as early as possible. Delaying treatment can affect jaw growth, prolong the painful bite and increase the chances that the permanent tooth will have the same problem.

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Next Month:

What is your diagnosis and treatment for this 14 week old puppy?



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