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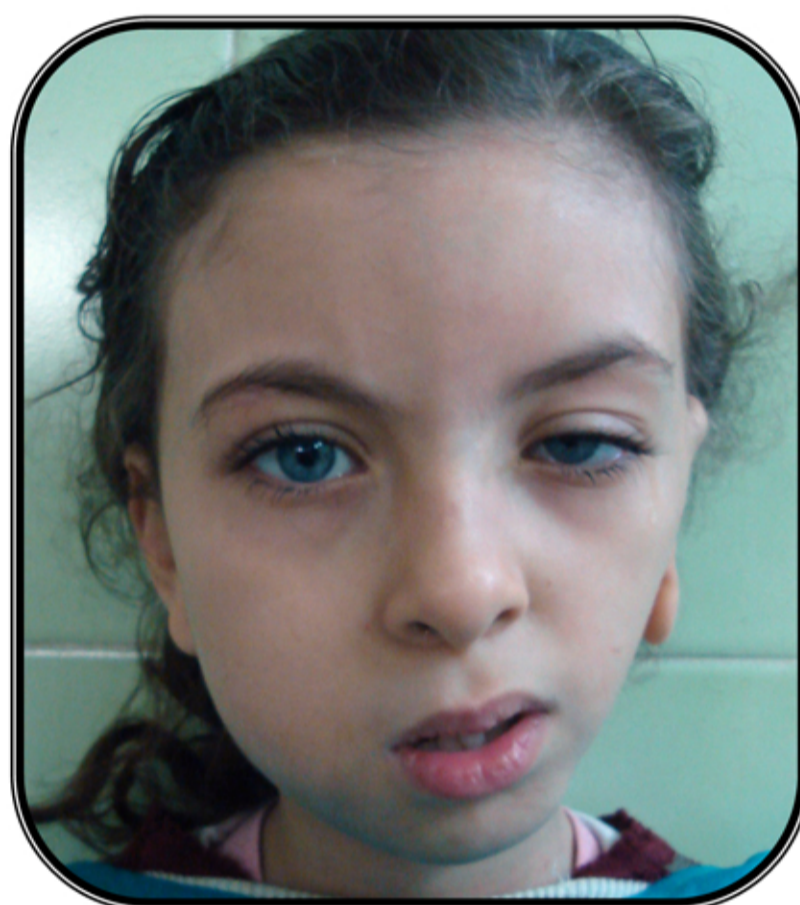


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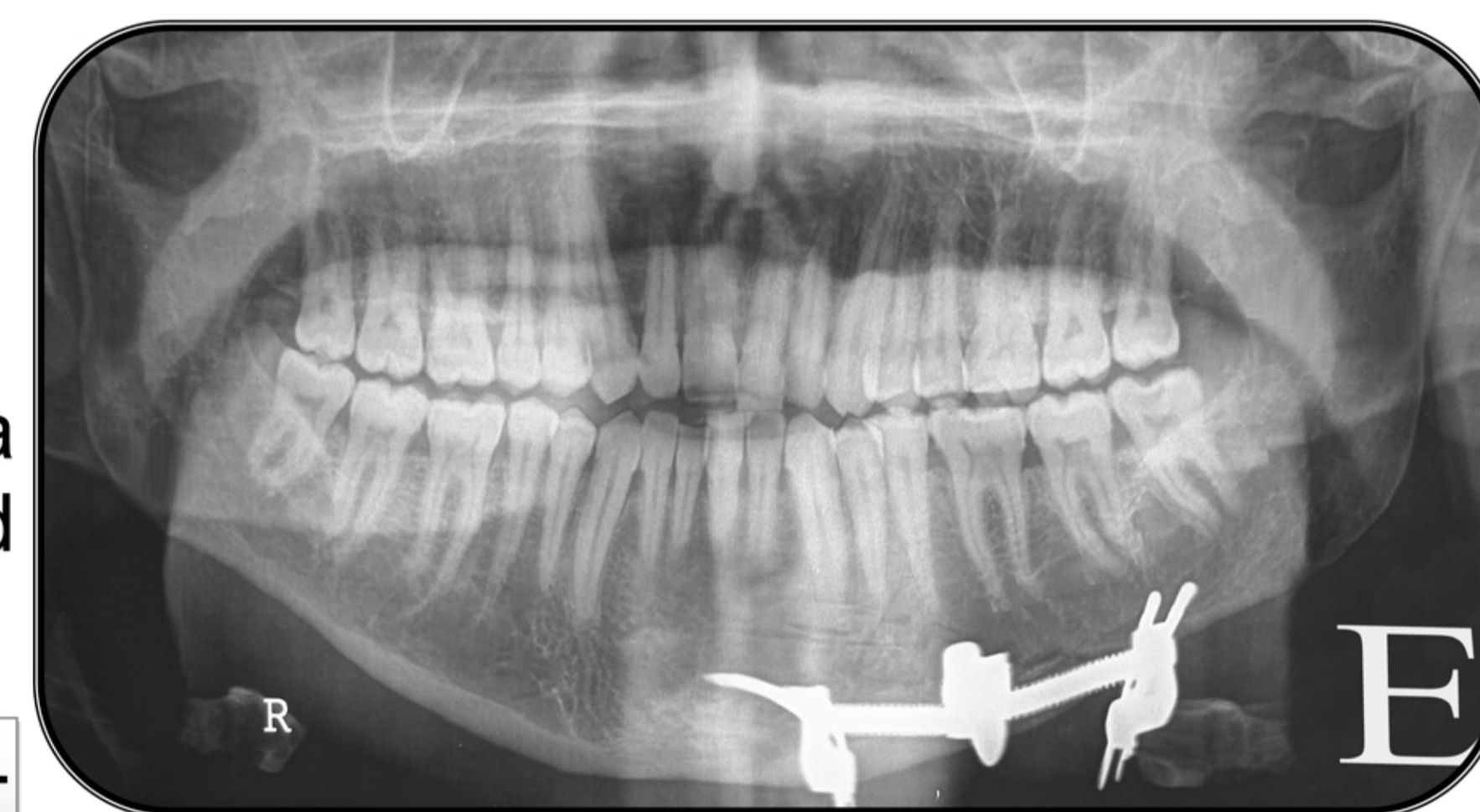
A Multi-uses Distractor

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Introduction: Distractors can be classified as extra-oral, intraoral distractors, and customized distractors. According to the direction of the action of distraction forces they can be unidirectional, bidirectional or multi-directional (linear, angular, and transverse). Multidirectional distractor usually used for treatment of the facial asymmetry like hemifacial microsomia



pre and postoperative photograph of a case of hemifacial microsomia treated by extraoral multidirectional distractor.



case of comminuted mandibular fracture treated by extra-oral multidirectional distractor as an external pin fixation.

Objectives: The release of multi-directional extra-oral distractor motivated us to consider it as an external pin fixator

Results: The use of extra-oral multidirectional distractor as an external pin fixation in the mandibular fractures and as temporary intraoperative external pin fixator in the mandibular resection was successful in the all patients without complications.

Patients & Methods: Four patients with comminuted mandibular fracture, one patient with infected parasymphiseal fracture and two patients with mandibular cystic ameloblastoma undergoing resection were enrolled in the study. In the case of mandibular fracture, the distractor was used as an external pin fixator.

while, in the case of segmental resection of the mandible, the distractor was used as temporary intraoperative an external pin fixator during resection and reconstruction.

Conclusion: extra-oral multidirectional distractor could be used as external pin fixation in selected cases.

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