

SCOPE OF COMPUTERISED TOMOGRAPHY AS A DIAGNOSTIC AID IN THE MAXILLOFACIAL COMPLEX

DISSERTATION

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Inherent complexity of the maxillofacial skeleton is a great stumbling block to the oral diagnostician attempting to precisely diagnose the mid facial fractures and lesions of the mid face region including, tumorous growths, malignancies and infections.

Close relationship of delicate and important organ systems in this region adds to the gravity for the need for proper diagnosis of injuries and other lesions of mid face, to manage them effectively.

Radiographs serve as a commendable adjunct to meticulous clinical examination. Diagnosis made by conventional radiography of the facial skeleton places a premium on its accurate diagnosis due to complexities of bony structure in this region. Further, soft tissue shadows, accompanying hemorrhage and swelling following trauma makes visualization very confusing and unobtainable. However along with the need for the increased recognition with greater precision in diagnosis and treatment planning, newer and more sophisticated diagnostic means are evolved, of which computerised tomography (CT) is worth highlighting.

As in the case of any new modality exuberant enthusiasm in the usage of CT Scan resulted in voluminous publications sighting its