Today, soft tissue surgery together with modern materials and techniques (mucoderm®, etc.) permit minimally invasive treatment outcomes, specific principles for the augmentation of bone and soft tissue, optimal implant insertion. To ensure a predictable and aesthetically pleasing result, the anatomical situation, however, rarely supports these concepts. It is an illusion to expect a perfect clinical outcome in the area of peri-implant surgery. These concepts may be supported with modern techniques such as PRF-technique, aim to further improve and accelerate hard and soft tissue healing.

Similarly, the average number of primary teeth affected by tooth decay decreased steadily in the period from 1977 to 1995. Yet, researchers have noted a gradual rise in this number again from 1996 onwards.

“In contrast to these negative trends in oral health, the trends in dental visiting patterns have generally been more positive,” said Dr Adrian Webster, spokesperson for the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

He said that the proportion of people aged 15 and over who had visited a dentist in the previous 12 months increased from 56 per cent in 1994 to 62 per cent in 2009.

“But despite this, the cost of dental care remains a barrier for some,” Webster stated.

According to the National Dental Telephone Interview Survey, there was an increase in the proportion of adults avoiding visits to a dentist owing to cost, from about 25 per cent in 1994 to 30 per cent in 2010.

The report also showed that the number of employed dental practitioners increased from around 18,700 in 2011 to nearly 19,600 in 2012. Over this period, the ratio of dentists per 100,000 population rose from around 55 to 57 dentists.

The report, which was published on 18 August, can be accessed on the institute’s website.
Supernumerary tooth grows in man’s nose

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia: Surgeons in Saudi Arabia have found a white bony mass inside the nose of a 22-year-old, which they identified later to be an extra tooth growing in the young man’s left nasal cavity.

The patient had suffered from nosebleeds once or twice a month for the past three years, the doctors reported. Owing to these symptoms, he was admitted to King Fahd Military Medical Complex in Dhahran.

Close examination of the man’s nasal cavity found a 1 cm-long white cylindrical bony mass arising from the floor of the nose, according to the case report.

A consultant dentist made the diagnosis of intranasal eruption of a supernumerary tooth. The prevalence of such teeth is not known, as they usually remain asymptomatic in many patients and the mechanism of eruption is poorly understood. “One theory is that there is a defect in the migration of neural crest derivatives destined to reach the jawbones. A more plausible explanation is multistep epithelial and mesenchymal interaction,” the surgeons stated.

While supernumerary teeth are usually asymptomatic, patients may present with a variety of symptoms, including nasal obstruction, headache, nosebleed and external nasal deformities. They may be associated with conditions such as cleft palate. The surgeons further said that such teeth can be easily detected using nasal endoscopy, panoramic radiographs, and CT scans.

In the present case, the patient underwent endoscopic extraction of the supernumerary tooth with its surrounding granulation tissue under general anaesthesia. After three months, the area was completely healed and the patient did not experience further nosebleed.

NDC appoints new head

Singapore: Dr Kwa Chong Teck has been heading the National Dental Centre in Singapore almost since its inception. Lately, the institution said that he has stepped down from his position as Executive Director.

Kwan has been with the centre for over 17 years. He will continue to serve as Senior Advisor in recognition of his experience and contributions to dentistry in Singapore, representatives of the NDC said.

Associate Professor Poon Choy Yoke, who prior to his appointment has been serving as the Centre’s Director of the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial and Deputy Executive Director for Research and Education, is assuming Kwa’s position which will also be renamed Director.

She is also Academic Chair of the recently established Sing - Health Duke-NUS Oral Health Academic Program. Her former duties will be taken over by NDC’s senior surgical consultant Dr Goh Bee Tin.

Established in 1997, the NDC is Singapore largest public facility for delivering specialist oral health care. It has also become an important hub for dental research and an education.