

#### Outcome studies in Endodontology

- Importance and general concepts
- Definitions
- The Toronto studies
- The Ng Studies
- CBCT studies
- How to assess an outcome study myself?

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Why are OUTCOME studies so important? Which irrigation protocol? Ultrasonic irrigation necessary? Pulpotomy or direct pulp capping ? Use calcium hydroxide? Which concentration of hypochloride? Bleaching with which material ? Pulpotomy or pulpectomy? CBCT before every treatment? Full crown of composite ? To re-treat or not to re-treat? Broken instruments- what to do ?

• The Association between Choice of Diagnostic Imaging Modality and Long-term Treatment Outcomes for Patients Undergoing Nonsurgical Root Canal Treatment on Maxillary First Molars

Ptak et al. J Endod 2021

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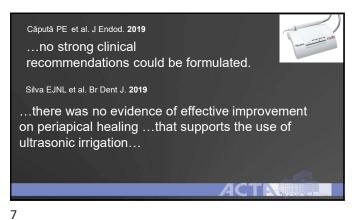
The decision to use CBCT imaging appears to serve as a proxy for case complexity and the associated increase in risk of posttreatment disease. This is important to keep in mind when assessing treatment prognosis.

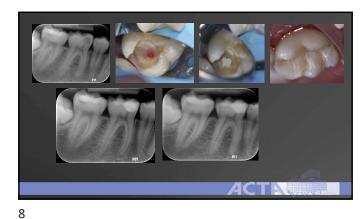
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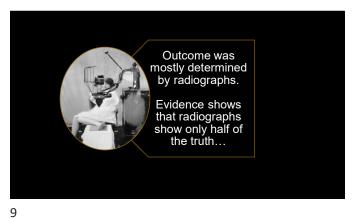
• Outcome studies show us sometimes how careful we must be when making clinical recommendations based on in-vitro studies

• The most extensively studied Surge of enthusiasm in the early '2000s

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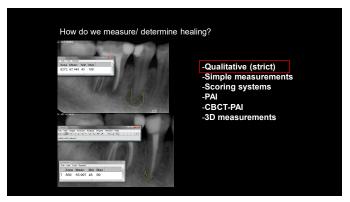


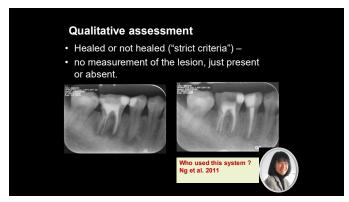




· Radiographic success: half true half false · Evidence: • Absence of AP on radiograph: half true half false or 2/3 true 1/3 false (Brynolf 1967, Barthel et al. 2004).. • Absence of AP on radiograph: 60% true 40% false (Estrela et al. 2008, Christiansen et al.

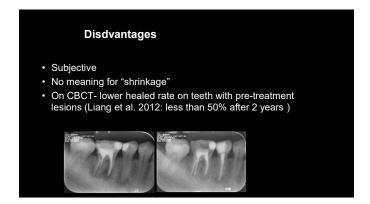
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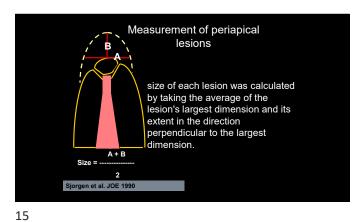


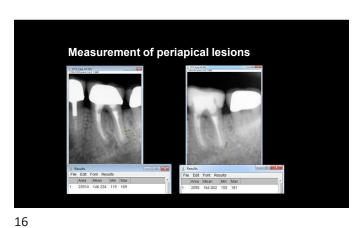
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# Advantages Quick and cheap method Gives clinically relevant information



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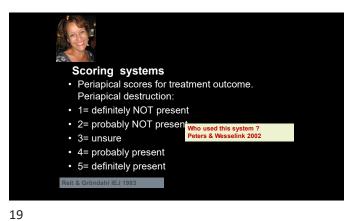






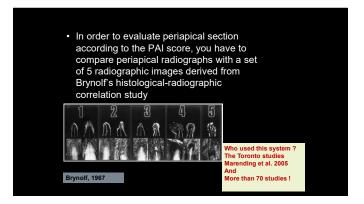


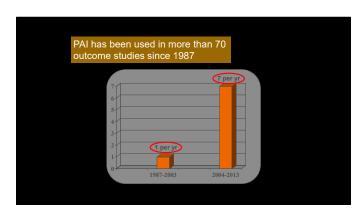
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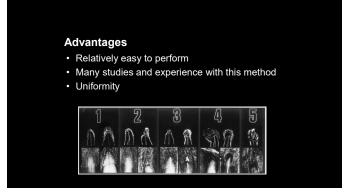
**PAI Score** • PAI score (Ørstavik et al. 1986) • "The PAI scoring system offers a visual reference scale for assigning a health status to the periapex. '

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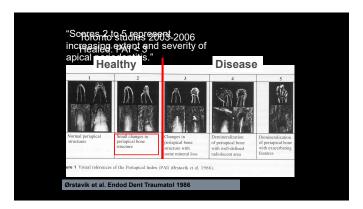


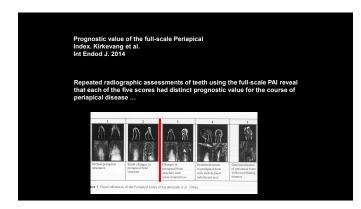
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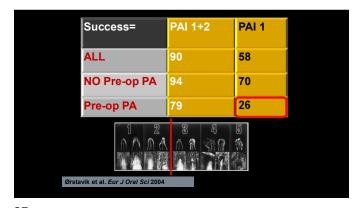


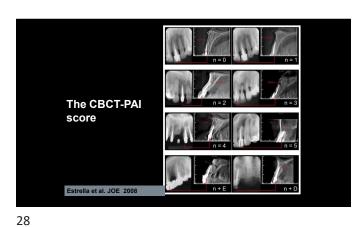


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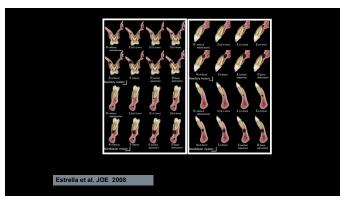


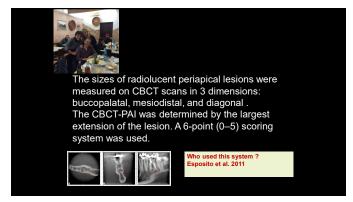




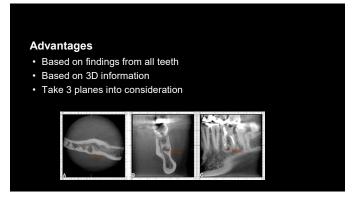


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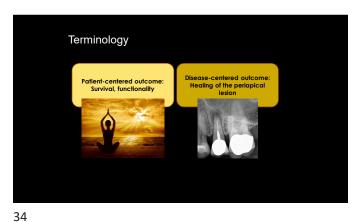


Disadvantages

- Measurements are still based on personal interpretation and 2D concepts
- Radiation
- · Artifacts like metal posts and radiodense materials
- Time consuming

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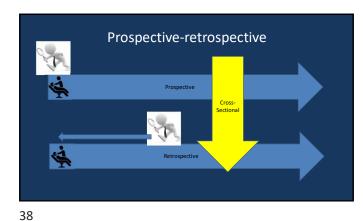


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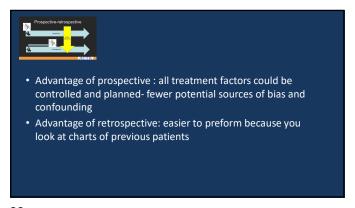
The Toronto Study Project, established in 1993, is a continuous prospective investigation of the 4- to 6-year outcome of endodontic treatment performed by graduate endodontics students in a university clinic environment.

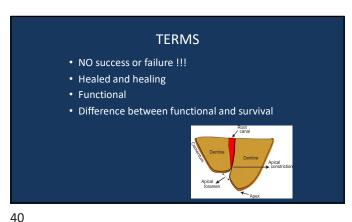
Patient recall has been divided into 2-year phases.

This modular design provides cumulative data with the completion of each successive phase, with the aim of amassing a sufficient sample to study the prognostic value of various factors.

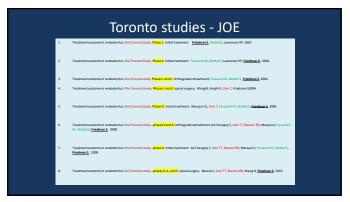


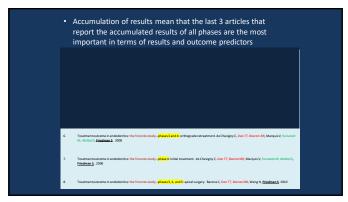
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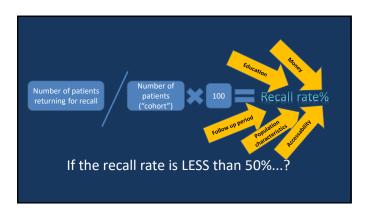


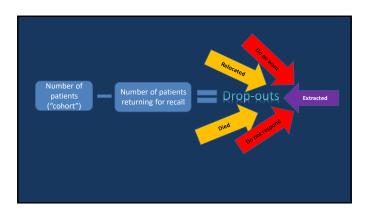
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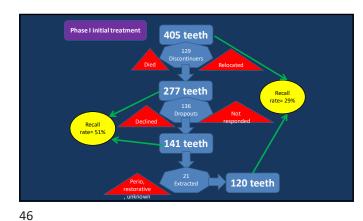
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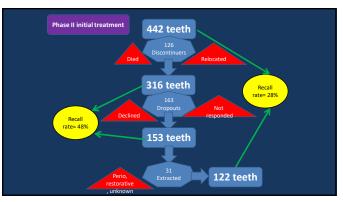


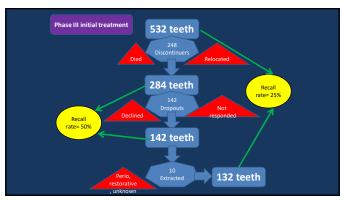
# Calculation of recall rate by Friedman Phase I –initial treatment

- INCEPTION COHORT: 405 teeth in 350 patients
- <u>DISCONTINUED</u>: deceased or relocated and could not be reached: 128 teeth. They are EXCLUDED from the cohort. We remain with 405-128= 277
- **DROPOUTS**: Declined or did not respond : 136 teeth, of the 277
- <u>RESPONDING</u>: 277-136= 141
- RECALL RATE: 51% of the 277
- **STUDY SAMPLE**= RESPONDING EXTRACTED



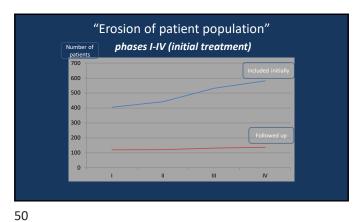
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Phase IV initial treatment 582 teeth 483 teeth 152 teeth 137 teeth 49

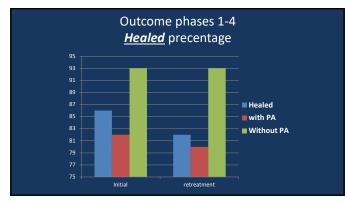


"Response bias analysis" • Explores whether the results could be skewed by the loss of follow-up. • Patients lost to follow-up are checked for different characteristics (gender, pre-op diagnosis, tooth • If the populations lost to follow up and attending are significantly different in parameters which were identified as an outcome predictor, than the results could be skewed.



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**Results-Toronto studies** 



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#### **Conclusions Toronto studies**

- Importance
- Methodology
- Relevance
- Future



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#### Ng studies- IEJ

- 1. "Outcome of primary...part 1 " Ng, Mann, Rahbarab, Lewsey & Gulabivala 2007
  2. "Outcome of primary...part 1" Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2008
  4. "Tooth survival..." Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2010
  5. "A prospective study...part 1"- Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2011 Outcome
  6. "A prospective study...part 2"- Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2011

A prospective study of the factors affecting outcomes of nonsurgical root canal treatment: part 1: periapical health. - Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2011

- The goal was to identify the prognostic factors for root canal (re) treatment.
- Observational design : factors cannot be controlled but only accounted for.
- All patients undergoing RCT of retreatment from 1st October 1997 until June 2005. By residents in Eastman. (Toronto: 1993-2001)
- Excluded from the study: perio or if the apex was not discernible on the x-ray
- Excluded from the analysis: follow-up less than 2 years, extracted, not enough data

• All treatments with anesthesia

- Various instrumentations
- GP + Roth canal sealer

57

- Various filling techniques
- Was magnification (microscope) used ?!

#### Classification

- Preoperative: 1. intact PDL 2. Widened PDL, 3. Lesion
- Diameter of the lesion measured with a ruler
- · Diameter of widened PDL 0.5 mm

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#### Outcome measurements

- Ng does not agree with Friedman and contantly uses the term "success rate".
- Primary: Clinical and radiographic: absebce or healing of lesion for each root
- Secondary: survival
- Succeess: 1.strict criteria : no pain, sympthoms and complete healing
- 2. Loose criteria- healing lesion.

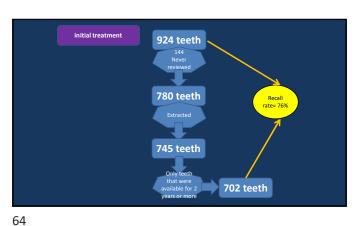
PAI score

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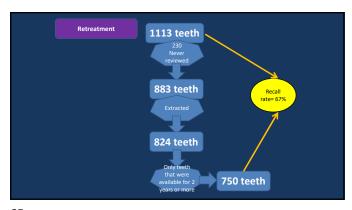
Numbers

• Total: 924 teeth for initial treatments and 1113 teeth for retreatments

| Initial-Ng | Retr. Ng | Ng | 1113 |
| Cohort | 924 | 1113 |
| Analysis | 702 | 750 |

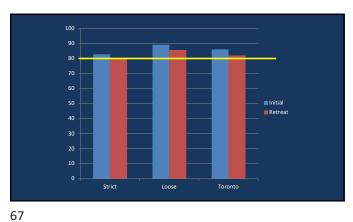


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The root as a unit • Friedman claimed that you SHOULD NOT use the root as a unit of measure because it had a tendency to OVERESTIMATE success. • This study and Hoskinson et al. 2002 do not support this. • Reason: root-level independent variables are more relevant

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Sensitivity of the radiographs • CBCT

**Factors** diameter of the lesion shorter sinus tract longer root perforation irrigating with a combination of CHX+ hypo interappointment complications, bad quality coronal

69 70

On what do Ng and Friedman dissagree? • Root level- tooth level • PAI score • Calculation of the recall rate Factors Still, their results are similar !!!



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#### **Definitions**

- Survival –time to extraction after RCT
- Functional survival (Friedman & Mor 2004)

#### Tooth survival- Review (2010)

1966-2007

31 articles identifies, 14 included Pooled survival 2-10 years 86-93%

73 74

#### Questions

- Why are there so few studies on survival compared to studies on healing of periapical lesion ?
- Sample size is larger than studies on periapical healing. Why?
- Influence of follow up time on the survival. Pooled results for 3-10 years but if you look at 8-10 years it is lower than 2-4 years.

Endodontic treatment outcomes in a large patient population in the USA: an epidemiological study.

Salehrabi R, Rotstein. JOE 200

- outcomes of initial endodontic treatment done in 1,462,936 teeth of 1,126,288 patients from 50 states across the USA was assessed over a period of 8 yr.
- Overall, 97% of teeth were retained in the oral cavity 8 yr after initial nonsurgical endodontic treatment.
- In conclusion, it appears that initial nonsurgical endodontic treatment is a predictable procedure with high incidence of tooth retention after 8 yr.

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#### **Problems**

- Tooth exists in the mouth.
- But in which condition? Unclear (but irrelevant for "survival")
- No prognostic factors checked

## Prognostic factors influencing survival

according to the review

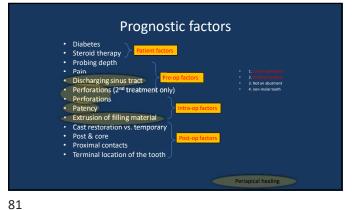
- 1. Crown restoration
- 2. Proximal contacts
- 3. Not an abutment
- 4. non-molar teeth

#### Tooth survival- Study (2011)

- Follow up 2-4 years
- Initial treatment & retreatment
- Initial: 95%
- Retreatment: 95%
- 13 prognostic factors were identified

- "The extraction outcome was reported either by the patient at the follow-up appointment, or without their attendance by phone or letter through the patient or referring dentist "
- Is this a big limitation ???
- No, because the recall rate was high.

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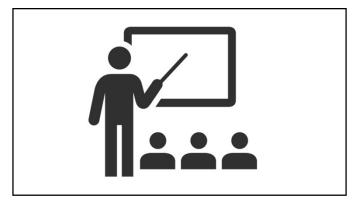


Why was the most important factor for healing (\*pre-op periapical lesion) NOT a factor for survival?

• "A mere presence of a periapical lesion was NOT a sufficient reason for active treatment" (Reit & Gröndahl 1988)

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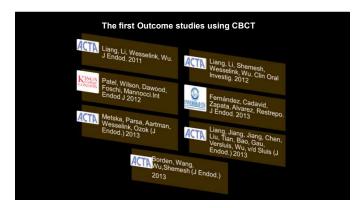


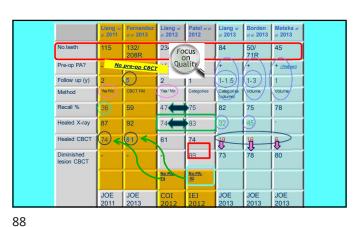


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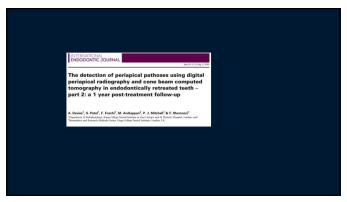


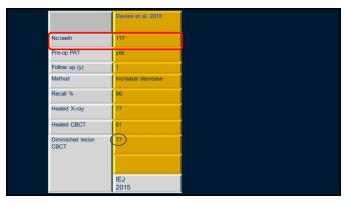






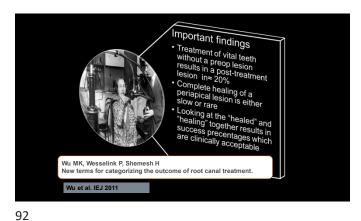
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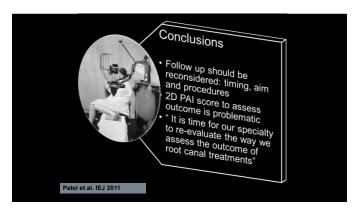


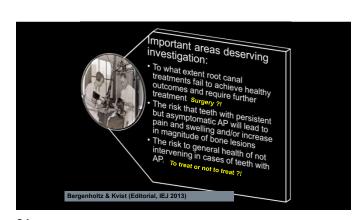
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Due to the generally high number of favourable outcomes, and the insensitivity of radiogrphs in detecting unfavourable outcomes it is reasonable to question whether a 1 year follow up with radiographs is justified especially in cases with small/ no pre-op radiolucencies

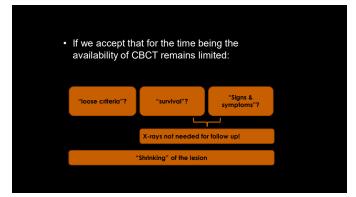


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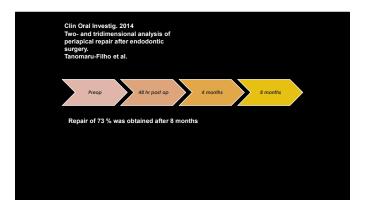


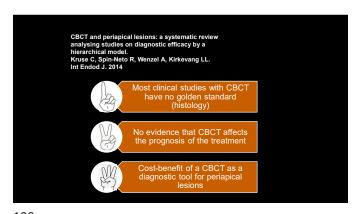


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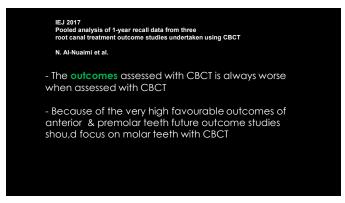


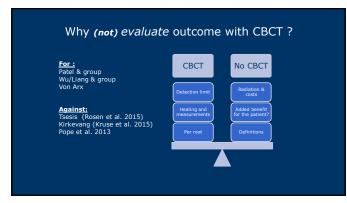






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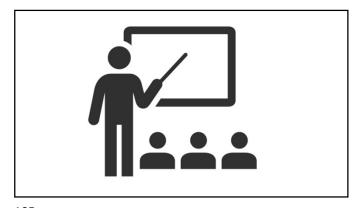
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### Summary

- Toronto studies
- Ng studies
- CBCT studies
- Outcome terminology and measurements
- Recall rate
- · Outcome of root canal treatment

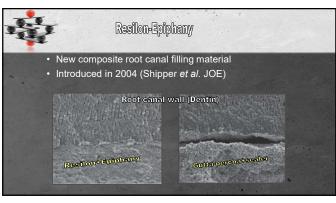


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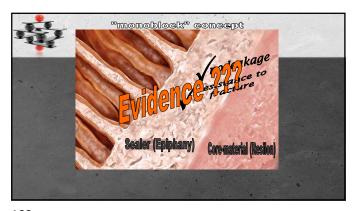
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Number of teeth originally
Number of teeth at recall
Recall rate

Follow-up period

Operator (who performed the treatments?)

Radiographs or CBCT?

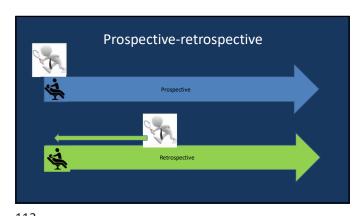
Outcome terminology (success ? healed ? ...)

Outcome measurement (PAI, strict, shrinking...)

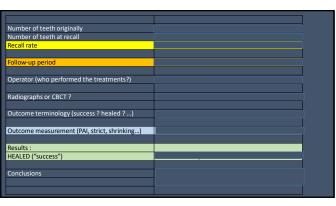
Results:

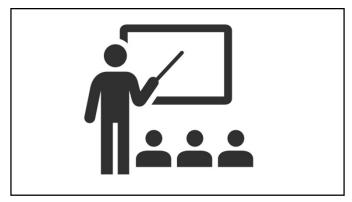
HEALED ("success")

Conclusions

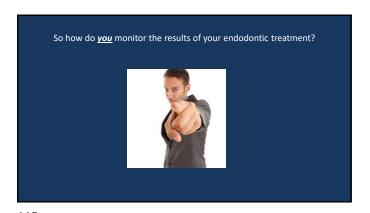


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#### Monitoring the outcome

- 1. A radiograph one year after the treatment
- 2. A radiograph 6 months after the treatment
- 3. I don't monitor the outcome
- 4. A CBCT one year after treatment
- 5. I follow it up after one and 4 years
- 6. I just call the patient on the phone

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Non-surgical retreatment :(Sathurn & Parashos follow-up protocol)

PA

1 year

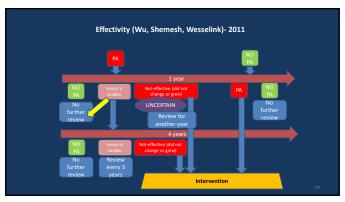
No
PA

No
PA

No
Further
review

No
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Take home message

Outcome studies are the essence of clinical studies in endodontology because they can give answers to most clinical questions

Healing of the periapical lesion on radiograph is mostly used to assess the outcome

Patient centered outcomes are also being used (and should be used more often?)

CBCT as a new tool to assess outcome (limited!)

Important concepts of outcome assessment were discussed

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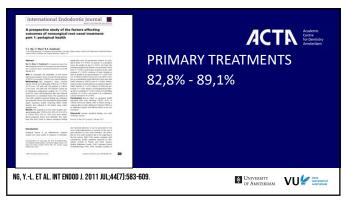
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- CBCT as a new tool to assess outcome
- Important concepts of outcome assessment were discussed

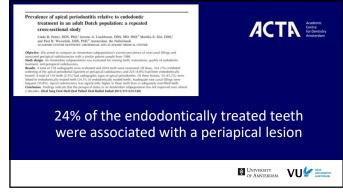
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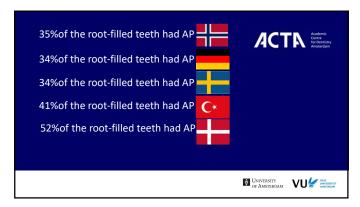
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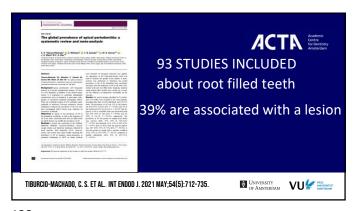




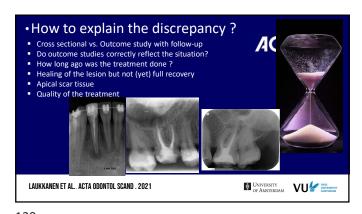
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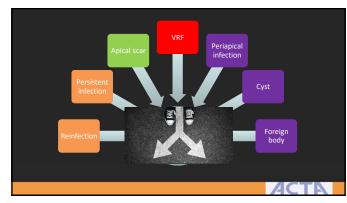
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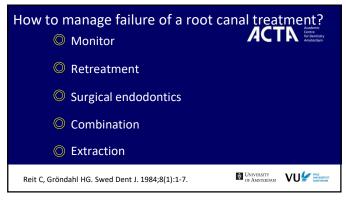


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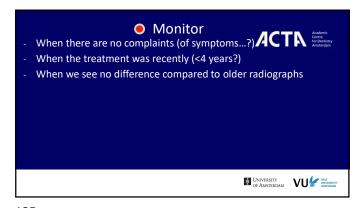


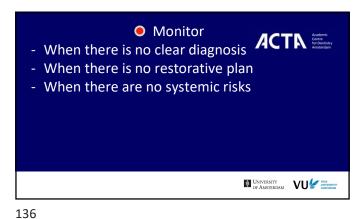


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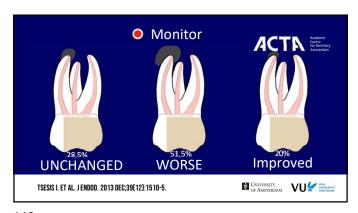
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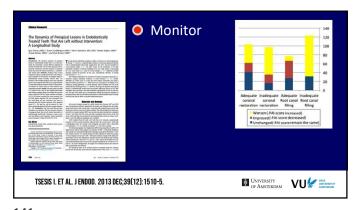


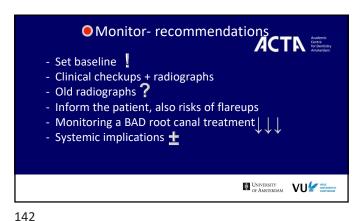


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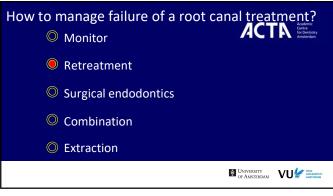








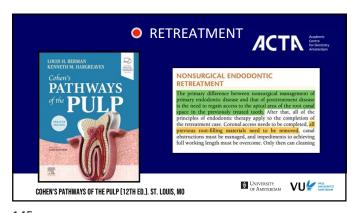
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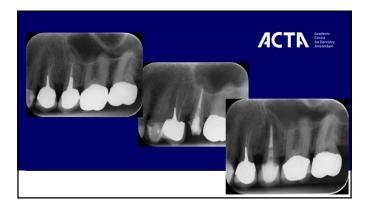




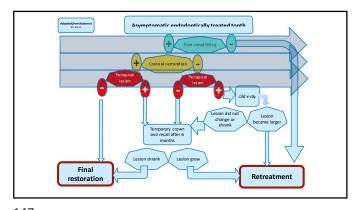
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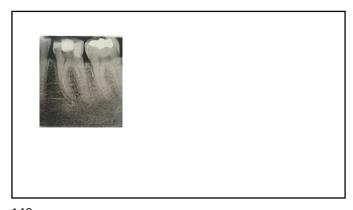
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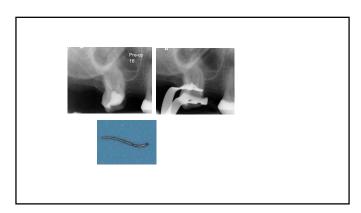




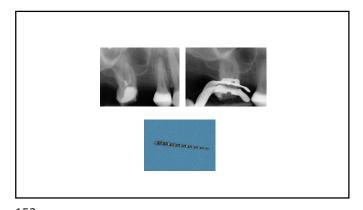
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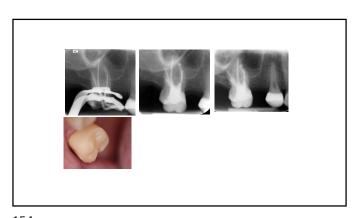
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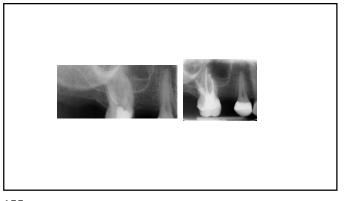


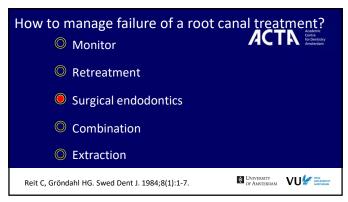
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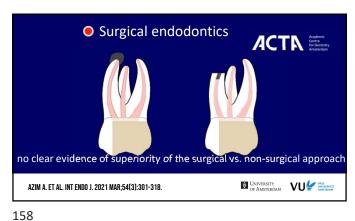
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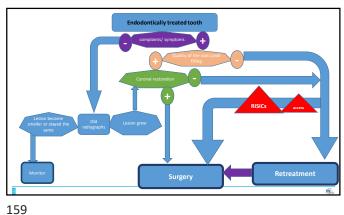




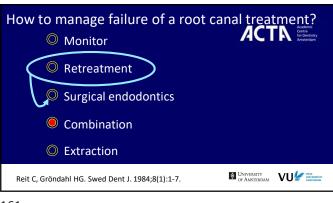
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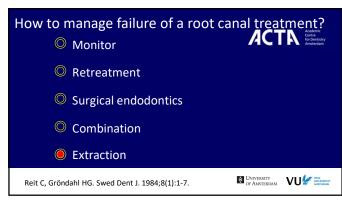


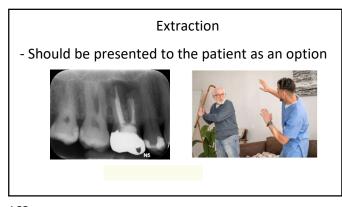


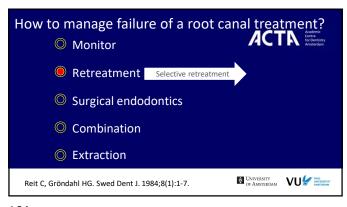




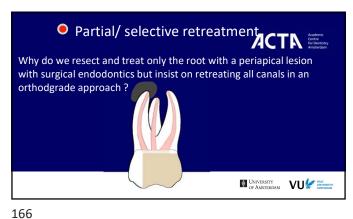






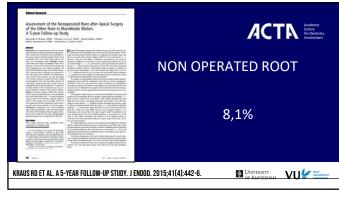




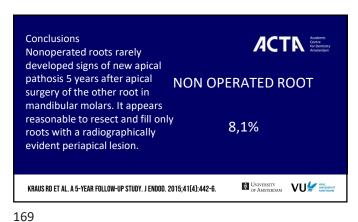


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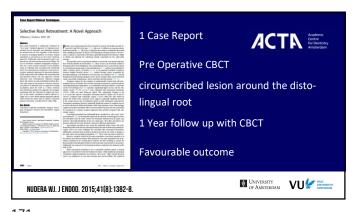


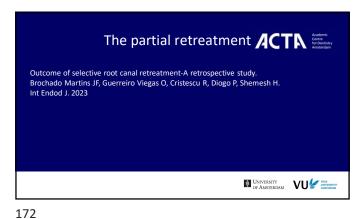


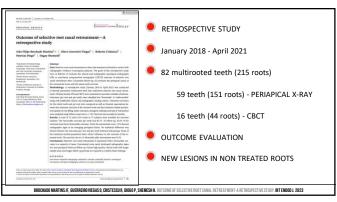
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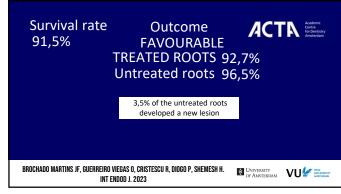


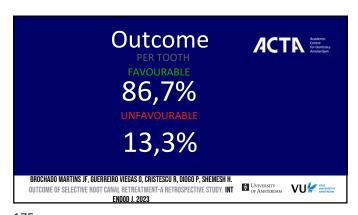




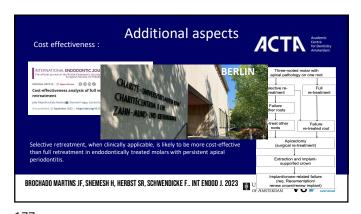








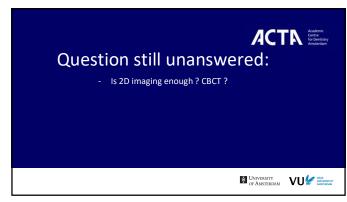




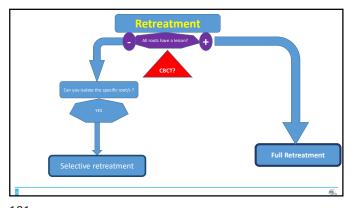


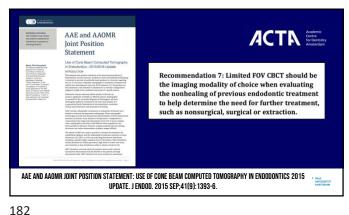
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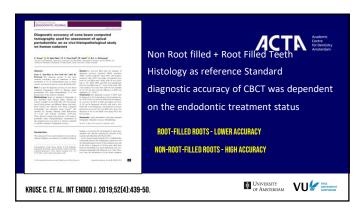




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"While CBCT offers greater diagnostic precision, its routine use for outcome evaluation may not be necessary, as it produces similar results compared to PR, when applying loose criteria."

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