Commentary:
Maxillary canine-first premolar transposition

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Peck, Peck and Attia are to be complimented on this nicely done study of an uncommon dental anomaly, associated dental anomalies and the genetic basis. They obtained a good sample size and enhanced this data with published documented cases. Their careful distinction between ectopic and transposition and the subsequent clarification is most welcome. The extensive bibliography is useful.

Their assumption from the data that this anomaly occurs more frequently in females should be studied further. Given the easily observed prevalence of females seeking orthodontic treatment, this matter can be solved with some statistical manipulation to adjust for the unequal sample size. It should be done.

Regarding occurrence in races, I would withhold judgement on this pending further study with different races. For example, the authors specifically omitted groups of articles as they did not have sufficient information for their study. But, my own review of the literature revealed a surprising (to me) number of cases of transposition in the Indian literature. Granted, they were not specifically Mx.C.P1, they still hint at more widespread occurrence of transposition in other racial groups. Generalities about race related occurrence of any anomalies must be cautiously suggested till sufficient data supports them.

The observations and their conclusions regarding the possible genetic basis for this anomaly are well done. Previous papers suggesting mechanical causes have not been persuasive. The remarks about the possibilities of field influence are timely.

The entire section on genetics is good and has much interesting information presented in a readable style.

The authors' suggestion for further study of the entire topic should provide stimulus to those in our specialty seeking subjects for research.

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References