

## The thing you must know before wisdom tooth extraction

Prof. Seung Il Song

The first thing you must know before wisdom tooth extraction is to determine the difficulty level. Our country's insurance system determines the difficulty level based on the depth of impaction seen in the panoramic view and has a corresponding fee system. However, in clinical practice, even if the wisdom teeth appear the same in the panoramic view, the difficulty level varies greatly depending on the patient's condition.

In addition to the depth of impaction, the factors that determine the difficulty of wisdom tooth extraction include the shape of the root, the patient's age, weight, gender, and mouth opening. These factors, along with the shape and depth of impaction, can make wisdom tooth extraction difficult. Before extraction, it is essential to carefully consider these factors and decide whether to extract them yourself or to refer them to a higher-level hospital.

Another thing to remember when deciding on wisdom tooth extraction is whether wisdom tooth extraction is really necessary right now. One of the questions that many patients referred from private dental clinics ask is whether they really need to extract their teeth. Every time that happens, we need the wisdom to compare the pros and cons of wisdom tooth extraction. Despite the low probability of possible nerve damage and other complications, if wisdom tooth extraction has great benefits, extraction should be actively considered.

The biggest factor that causes people to avoid wisdom tooth extraction is probably nerve damage. Although it is difficult to predict accurately, it is necessary to predict the possibility of nerve damage on X-ray images, and if the possibility is high, intentional coronectomy may be considered. Most importantly, you should never forget to write a consent form along with an explanation of the various possibilities. Never forget that an explanation is given before surgery, but an excuse is given after surgery.

### Profile

- \* Seoul National University College of Dentistry, DDS
- \* Seoul National University School of Dentistry, MSD., PhD.
- \* Resident and clinical fellow in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Seoul National University Dental Hospital
- \* Full-time lecturer, assistant professor, clinical associate professor, clinical professor at Ajou University Dental Hospital
- \* Visiting professor at University of California at Los Angeles
- \* Present, Director of the Dental Clinic Center at Ajou University Dental Hospital