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COVER

On the cover: Tooth agenesis is a common dental anomaly and is often found in orthodontic patients. Oligodontia – 6 or more missing permanent teeth – is relatively rare and its characteristics are not well understood. Kazuhito Arai, Professor and Chair of the Department of Orthodontics, Nippon Dental University in Tokyo, with support by members of the Japanese Association of Orthodontists, studied the records of 228 Japanese orthodontic patients with non-syndromic oligodontia and identified 51 different agenesis patterns for the maxillary arch and 49 for the mandibular arch. The numbers of patterns seen for occluding and full-mouth tooth agenesis were even greater, 215 and 180, suggesting large individual variation. Compared with previous European studies, Japanese patients with oligodontia were more likely have agenesis patterns that include missing maxillary first and second premolars and mandibular second premolars. The smiling patient on the cover is Emily Mahood. She was treated orthodontically by Drs. Ed and Shannon Owens, Jackson, Wyoming.

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