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## Third molar - optional tooth

There is always a nagging question which heightens my curiosity on the appropriate removal of an impacted third molar in this specific situation:

What if you have a carious or beyond-repair second molar or second bicuspid? Will you try to heroically upright the mesially or horizontally impacted third molars?

Orthodontic up righting technique for effective treatment of impacted third molars, exposed or unexposed, is described. When used with TADS along with Australian wire, 020 is the other technique that I used. The other one is with several wire mechanics without using TADS but with the utilization of some up-righting techniques that are simple and effective in positioning impacted third molars.

Up righting of mesially tilted molars is the recommended treatment and should be done as soon as possible. If not properly corrected, mesially impacted molars may lead complications such as elongation of opposing teeth, periodontal problems on the mesial side of the affected teeth, caries in the unerupted molars, temporomandibular disorders and poor oral hygiene. Some clinical procedures have been used to upright third molar are mentioned above. Is it really worth working to leave the third molar be uprighted or have it surgically removed?

#### **Biography**

Maria Concepcion Parrenas is a Doctor of Dental Medicine with post-graduate studies in Orthodontics at the University of the East, Manila. She is currently a professor in the Graduate Department in Dentistry at the same university. She has been in the practice of Dental Medicine since 1987 and is continually advancing in her specialized field to give excellent quality service to her patients. With extensive training in cosmetic dentistry, orthodontics and implants, Dr. Maria established dental clinics in Quezon City and Pasig City.

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