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شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الالكتروني والميكروفيلم





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Tanta University
Faculty of Dentistry

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DIGITIZED DENTAL RADIOGRAPHS AS A DIAGNOSTIC AID IN PERIODONTICS

THESIS

Submitted In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of Master Degree in Oral Medicine, Periodontology,Oral Diagnosis & Radiology

PRESENTED BY

Hafez Mohammed Hafez Diab

1996

SUPERVISORS

DR. MONA YEHIA ABD EL-RAZZAK. Am Jehn

Assoc. Prof., Oral Medicine, Periodontology, Oral Diagnosis & Radiology Dept. Faculty of Dentistry, Tanta University.

DR. MAHER MOHAMMED EL-TOUNSY

Assoc. Prof., Oral Medicine, Periodontology, Oral Diagnosis & Radiology Dept. Faculty of Dentistry, Tanta University.

DR. HUSSEIN IBRAHIM SAUDI.

Lecturer, Oral Medicine, Periodontology Oral Diagnosis & Radiology Dept. Faculty of Dentistry, Tanta University.

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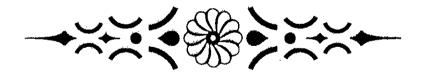
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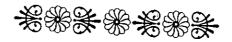


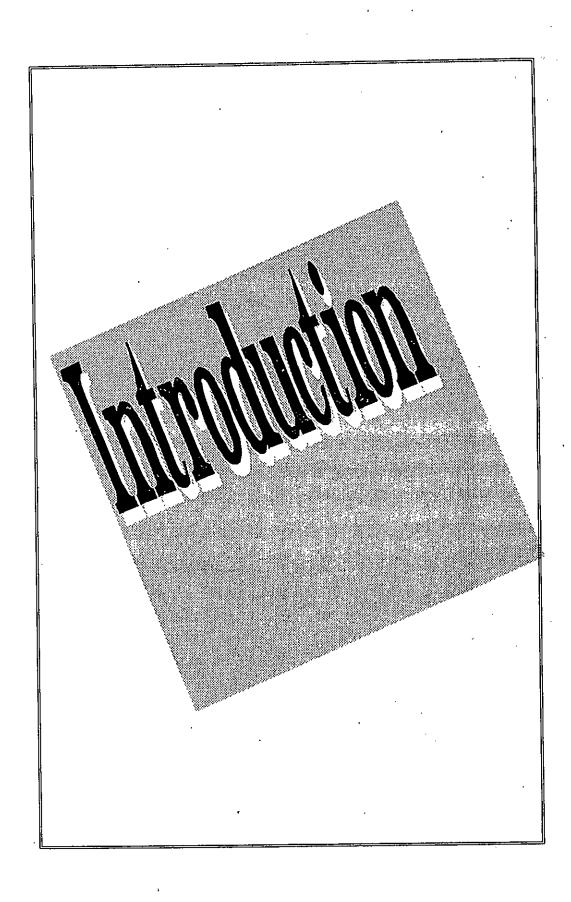
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One of the most important features of periodontal diseases is alveolar bone loss (Manson, 1976). The distance from the cemento-enamel junction to the crest of the alveolar bone is used as a measure to detect the amount of bone loss (Goodson et al., 1984).

Intra-oral conventional radiographs have been the primary diagnostic method for the assessment of osseous changes due to periodontitis (Jeffcoat, 1992). However, the information obtained from such radiographs depend on the image quality and abilities of the observer (Rossmann, 1969).

Over the past two decades many investigators have developed radiographic methods that improved the observer's abilities to detect and measure changes in the alveolar bone (Wenzel, 1990). However, it was found that the measurement of morphological bone changes is an insensitive method compared to other methods measuring density changes on the radiographs as a result of demineralization or remineralization (Janseen et al., 1989). In addition, the image quality in the conventional film radiography is determined during exposure and processing of the image. Once the film has left the processing solutions, nothing can be done to improve the image quality except bleaching of dark radiographs (Kaplen et al., 1990).

Accordingly, it was aimed to find out a technique or a procedure that increases the detectability of small bone changes and eliminates the inherent difficulties of the radiographic interpretation (Reddy, 1992).

The digital subtraction radiography was introduced into periodontal diagnosis because of its potential of being more sensitive than the conventional radiographs specially when comparing a pair of serial radiographs (Hausmann et al., 1991). In addition, the images in digital radiography are viewed at display stations with a possibility for interactive image manipulation. As such, image quality may be improved prior to interpretation (Wenzel, 1991).

The idea of the digital subtraction technique is based on superimposition of two radiographs, achieving an overlap of identical anatomic structures in the image, where after the homologues information in one image is subtracted from that in the other. This is achieved by a special computer software and a video camera or a scanner which convert the processed radiographs into images (Wenzel, 1990).

Generally, the background anatomic structures which conceal the signal of interest in a radiographic image are termed structured or anatomic noise which may be a limiting