

Focal reversible pulpitis

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Introduction:

“Pulp hyperemia”

Vascular dilation can occur naturally from the pumping action during tooth extraction as well as due to irritation of dentinal and pulpal tissues.

Clinical features:

- Sensitive to thermal changes especially cold
- Pain is relieved after removal of stimuli.
- Tooth responds to electric pulp tests at low level of current.
- Greater sensitivity
- Deep carious lesions
- Large metallic restorations
- Restorations with defective margins

Histological features;

- Dilatation of pulp vessels
- Edema due to damage of capillary walls
- Slowing of the blood flow and hemoconcentration leading to thrombosis
- Increased arterial pressure occluding vein at apical foramen.
- When a necrosed pulp chamber is opened, there will be still some vital tissues left, providing that total necrosis does not always occur.

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- Reparative dentin noted in adjacent dentinal wall.

Treatment and Prognosis:

- Reversible condition (Irritant is removed before the pulp is severely damaged)
- If primary cause is not removed, it leads to death of the pulp.

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References:

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