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AIIMS docs use stem cell method to regrow teeth

New Delhi: Don't worry about your child's loss of teeth or if they have immature ones as doctors at AIIMS can regrow them using stem cell technique by just making a minute slit in their root.

"We, at AIIMS, are treating children with infected, immature teeth as a result of traumatic injuries, by using locally available indigenous stem cells," Dr Naseem Shah, chief, Centre for Dental Education and Research, AIIMS, said.

Shah explained the root forms the most important part of the tooth. It anchors the tooth within the bone and houses the pulp (ie. tiny blood vessels and nerves) which extends to the underlying bone and helps nourish and give feeling to the tooth.

Any trauma to the teeth may lead to infection and death of the pulp, infection in the bone and arrest of the root development. Such roots are fragile and may fracture, leading to loss of tooth.

Conventional treatment for such teeth, known as root canal therapy, involves removal of dead pulp from the root canal, followed by sealing of the canal with an inert material.

However, in the new treatment, after the infection in root canals is controlled, bleeding is induced in the root canal by puncturing the tissues at the root end so that a clot is formed in the root canal. —PTI

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