
Part II

Elementary Radiographical Semeiotics and Pathological Terminology

The aim of the following section is to describe the main and more common detectable alterations in OPT, with particular regard to the elementary semeiotic elements and to the terminology used in medical reports.

It must be considered that, in the majority of cases, the diagnosis is basically dependent on clinical evaluation, as OPT is essentially an integrative and supporting technique to the odontostomatologue's actions.

It is also to say that the subdivision of the different pathological fields in separate chapters, even if useful from the didactic and expositive point of view, appears to be artificial. This is because in the majority of cases, the alterations tend to coexist together in a more or less significant way.

Pathological events which are detectable in OPT can be basically recognised as follows:

- Alterations of number, orientation, seat, morphology, width and structure of the dental element
- Caries
- Periapical alterations
- Alterations of the periodontal apparatus
- Focal lesions of maxillaries
- Alterations of the mandibular canal