

- **hereditary gingival fibromatosis**
- **down syndrome**
- **rickets**

*****Hyperparathyroidism** can result in the **premature exfoliation** of primary teeth.

The generalized eruption failure or “primary failure of eruption” is caused by the failure of the eruption mechanism itself. Bone resorption proceeds normally, but involved teeth simply do not follow the path that has been cleared. The involved teeth do not erupt spontaneously and are not amenable to any orthodontic recourse. This condition is rare.

The **localized** causes of failure of eruption or the delayed eruption of the teeth include:

- Congenital absence
- Abnormal position of the crypt
- Lack of space in the arch (*crowding*)
- Supernumerary teeth
- Dilacerated roots

Remember: Anodontia, diagnosed in a 5 year old child, primarily affects the growth of the **alveolar bone** (*as opposed to the midface, maxilla, or mandible, etc.*). *** The bone of the alveolar process **exists only to support the teeth**. If a tooth fails to erupt, alveolar bone never forms in that area; and if a tooth is extracted, the alveolus resorbs after the extraction until finally the alveolar ridge completely atrophies.