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25 official position of the institution or funder.
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Abstract

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Objective: To perform a ‘virtual autopsy’ on the Egyptian mummy and to study, understand, and interpret three-dimensional (3D) high-resolution computed tomography (CT) scan images of Osirmose’s mummy with a multidisciplinary team composed of radiologists, archaeologists, and oral and maxillofacial surgeon.

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Material and methods: We studied the Osirmose’s mummy, the doorkeeper of the Temple of Re, who lived during the XXVth dynasty. His mummy belongs to the Royal Museum of Art and History (Inv. E.5889). We performed a high resolution CT scanning of Osirmose’s mummy. We also 3D printed the upper maxilla of the mummy and a tooth found in the oesophagus with a clinically validated low-cost 3D printer.

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Results: We confirmed the male sex of the mummy. We found the heart, aorta, and kidneys inside the mummy’s body. Brain excerebration was performed through the right ethmoid bone pathway. A wood stick embedded in the dura mater tissue was found inside the skull. The orbicularis oculi muscle, internal canthus, optical nerves, and calcified eye were still present. Artificial eyes were added above the stuffing of eye globes. The skull and face were embalmed with multiple layers of inner bandages in a sophisticated manner. The wear of maxillary teeth was asymmetrical and more pronounced on the maxilla. We discovered three anomalies of the upper maxilla: 1) a rectangular hole on the palatine side of tooth n°26 (the palatine root of tooth n°26 was missing), 2) an indentation at a right angle palatine to tooth n°27, and 3) a semilunar shape of edges around the osteolytic lesion distal and palatine to tooth n°28.

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Conclusions: The present study provides the first evidence of a tooth removal site, and of oral surgery procedures previously conducted in a 2700-year-old Egyptian embalmed mummy. We found traces of dental root removal, and the opening of a tooth-related osteolytic lesion before the person’s death. The multidisciplinary team, the use of a high resolution 3D CT scan and a 3D-printed model of the upper maxilla helped in this discovery.

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Keywords: Egyptian mummy, embalming, computer tomography, head, oral surgery, 3D printing

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Introduction

66 Currently, the existence of tooth removal and oral surgery in Ancient Egyptian
67 civilization is not scientifically recognized in the medical literature [1, 2]. Research
68 on this subject usually refers to early work of major pioneers in Egyptology, such as
69 Ruffer and Elliott Smith, who performed numerous destructive autopsies of
70 mummies at the beginning of the 20th century [3, 4]. However, none of the early
71 Egyptologists were dentists or oral surgeons, which could have influenced their
72 ability to correctly interpret any potential findings in the mummies' oral cavities. In
73 1917, Hooton described a potential round apectomy site in one ancient Egyptian Old
74 Kingdom Giza mandible (Peabody Museum, Harvard University, Boston, USA) [5].
75 Hooton's discovery was later disapproved as a round hole in the mandible was
76 found to be natural cortical bone destruction caused by a bone cyst associated with
77 an accessory foramen mentale (trigeminal nerve) that was present on the mandible
78 near the same anatomical area [1]. Between the sixties and the seventies of the XXth
79 century, a British oral surgeon, Dr. Francis Leek was part of the next generation of
80 scientists who strongly denied the existence of oral surgery during the 4000 years of
81 Egyptian civilization [6, 7]. However, the research performed by Dr. Leek did not
82 include any convincing modern methodology (i.e., statistics, access to primary data
83 or multidisciplinary team expertise). Dr. Leek claimed that there was no evidence of
84 tooth removal among the 3000 skulls that he studied [6, 7]. The collection of ancient
85 Egyptian skulls may not represent the ideal target group for finding evidence of
86 tooth removal, as skulls alone cannot give information about social status
87 (commoners or elites); or the historical time period. We hypothesized that only well-
88 preserved ancient Egyptian mummies in their original coffins would provide any
89 evidence of human involvement in tooth removal or in oral surgery. Previous
90 medical literature is lacking in evidence of tooth removal in Ancient Egypt, and
91 authors who are more modern avoid any interpretation of data even when teeth were
92 clearly missing before the person's death [8]. The absence of proof of oral surgery
93 became a common conviction over time in Egyptology [8, 9]. However, the absence
94 of proof does not equate to the proof of absence. Additionally, new discoveries may
95 occur by chance, and may require an open mind. Our multidisciplinary research
96 team began work on the mummy of Osirmose, the doorkeeper of the Temple of Re,
97 who lived during the XXVth dynasty (747-656 BC). His two coffins and his mummy
98 have belonged to the Egyptian collections of the Royal Museum of Art and History,
99 in Brussels, Belgium since 1874 (Inv. E.5889). Three-dimensional (3D) computed
100 tomography (CT) scanning of Osirmose's mummy was part of a greater project of
101 digitalization of Ancient Egyptian human collections of the Royal Museums of Art
102 and History (ongoing PhD thesis in Archaeology of Mrs C. Tilleux, UCLouvain,
103 Belgium), performed in collaboration with the Department of Medical Imaging;
104 Cliniques universitaires saint Luc, Brussels, Belgium. After some initial

105 observations of 3D CT high-resolution images of Osirmose, we found a tooth in the
106 oesophagus of the mummy. After 3D printing of the upper maxilla and of the tooth,
107 and after finding the potential empty alveolar socket that corresponded to that tooth,
108 we discovered that Osirmose's maxilla was holding the key to another important
109 secret treasure of medical history.

110 Materials and methods

111 An Egyptian mummy attributed to Osirmose, the “doorkeeper of the Temple of
112 Ra”, is presently kept in the Royal Museums of Art and History (RMAH) (Brussels),
113 Inv. E.5889. It was bequeathed at the RMAH with its two coffins (middle and inner)
114 in 1874 by the Belgian diplomat and collector É. De Meester de Ravestein (1813-
115 1889) [10] (Figure 1).
116



117 **Fig. 1.** Three coffins of Osirmose. 1. Inner coffin and the mummy (RMAH,
118 Brussels). 2. Middle coffin (RMAH, Brussels). 3. Outer coffin (Grand Curtius
119 Museum, Liège).
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122 The outer coffin belongs to the Grand Curtius Museum (Liège), Inv. I/628A = Eg.
123 83A [10]. The three coffins of Osirmose were initially part of the private collection

124 of Giovanni Anastasi (1780-1860), a merchant of antiquities from Alexandria, who
125 was also appointed Consul-General in Egypt for the Kingdom of Sweden and
126 Norway in 1828 [10, 11]. After his death, a part of his collection was auctioned in
127 Paris in 1857 [10, 11]. The three coffins and the mummy were purchased by Antoine
128 Schayes (1808-1859), the first curator of RMAH [10]. Schayes's archaeological
129 collection was sold in 1859 after his unexpected death at the age of 51 [10]. At the
130 time of this second sale, the outer coffin belonging to Osirmose and another coffin
131 attributed to a certain Horsiesi were inverted [10]. The middle and inner coffins of
132 Osirmose, his mummy and the coffin of Horsiesi were then purchased by É. de
133 Meester de Ravestein, while Osirmose's outer coffin was bought by Baron Albert
134 d'Otreppe de Bouvette (1787-1871), the first director of the Archaeological Institute
135 in Liège, Belgium [10]. Further, É. De Meester de Ravestein donated his three
136 coffins and the mummy to the RMAH in 1874, and Baron d'Otreppe offered
137 Osirmose's outer coffin to the Grand Curtius Museum in Liège in 1865 [10, 12]. The
138 funerary assemblage of Osirmose dates from the XXVth dynasty and probably comes
139 from the Theban necropolis [10]. These chronological and geographical estimations
140 are based on stylistic and typological criteria [10].

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142 Another chronological indicator is the presence of the mummy's artificial eyes [10].
143 False eyes are one of the major innovations of the XXIst dynasty (approximately
144 1069-945 BC) [10]. If this mode of embalment was widespread during this period,
145 it seems that the use of artificial eyes was occasionally maintained until the XXVth
146 and XXVIth dynasties [10, 13].

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148 Osirmose was a member of an important family of Theban priests whose collective
149 tomb was probably discovered by the merchant and collector Giovanni Anastasi
150 during his excavations in the 1820s [10]. The coffin, cartonnage and mummy of
151 Osirmose's father, Padiamenet, "Chief Doorkeeper of the Domain of Ra, Chief
152 Attendant of Ra and Chief Barber of the Domain of Ra and of the temple of Amun"
153 [14], were in the collection of the collector and diplomat Henry Salt (1780-1827)
154 and were sold in 1839 to the British Museum (Inv. EA.6682-6683) [10]. The mum-
155 my together with the coffins of Dismutenibtes, Osirmose's mother and Padiamenet's
156 wife, were donated to the Oslo Museum of Cultural History by Giovanni Anastasi
157 himself in 1826 (Inv. C.47705, C.47708) [15].

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159 A two-dimensional radiological study was attempted on the mummy of Osirmose in
160 1999 [10, 16]. Based on the radiographic information on the pelvic bones Francot's
161 study concluded that the mummy inside Osirmose's coffins was indeed a female
162 [10, 16]. This information was again reproduced in Taylor and Antoine's book on
163 Egyptian mummies of the British Museum in 2014 [10, 14].

164 After obtaining permission from the curator of the Egyptian section at the RMAH,
165 Brussels, Belgium, a mummy was transported to our university clinic, and a 3D CT
166 scan was performed in the Department of Medical Imaging with a multi-slice CT
167 scanner, Brilliance ICT 256 (Philips Healthcare, Eindhoven, Netherlands) [10]. All
168 necessary permits were obtained for the described study, which complied with all

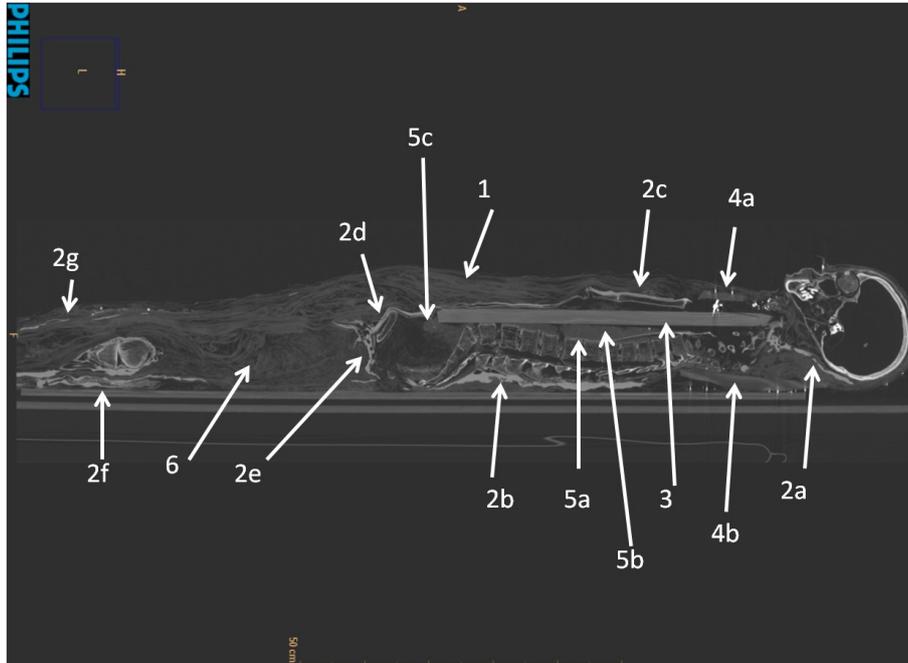
169 relevant regulations. 3D CT scanning was performed in two separate sections: 1)
170 from the skull vertex to the tibia, and 2) from the tibia to the toes. We applied the
171 following radiological protocol: 80 keV and 140 keV, 140 mAs, slice thickness of
172 0.9 mm, slice increment of 0.45 mm, pitch of 0.38, field of view of 400 mm, C filter,
173 collimation 128 x 0.625, matrix of 512 x 512, and total scan length of 1860 mm.
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175 To better understand anatomical structures, we performed 3D printing of the upper
176 maxilla and of the tooth found in the mummy oesophagus. The 3D CT
177 reconstruction of the upper maxilla and of the tooth was saved in an STL file. Then,
178 the STL file was prepared with Netfabb software (Netfabb, Lupburg, Germany), and
179 with the 3D printer software. We used a low-cost 3D printer (Up plus 2, TierTime,
180 Beijing) that uses fusion deposition modelling technology.
181 Accuracy tests and clinical validation have already been performed for this specific
182 type of low-cost 3D printer [17]. A filament of plastic (ABS) is extruded from the
183 head of the 3D printer and deposited layer by layer on a heated support. The head
184 moves along the x- and y- axes, and the heat support moves along the z-axis. The
185 cost of the 3D printer is approximately 1300 euros and the cost of 700 grams of
186 plastic filament is approximately 35 euros. We chose the lowest slice thickness of
187 150 microns. The time for 3D printing of the upper maxilla (21.4 grams) was set at 3
188 hours and 3 minutes for 157 layers, and for the single tooth (0.3 grams) the time was
189 4 minutes for 76 layers. The postprocessing for this type of 3D printed model was
190 very easy and fast (a few minutes). There were only a few layers of support material
191 to detach from the final 3D printed model. All the 3D printed models were then
192 painted with acrylic paint typically used by modelling hobbyists to improve the
193 visual comprehension of anatomical structures.

194 **Results**

195 **General description**

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197 The body represents an adult of unknown age. However, further restorations added
198 anterior and posterior wood plates, and a wood stick inside the thoracic cage, whose
199 edge reached under the skull and face (Figure 2). There were also multiple circles of
200 metallic wire around the head and around the upper body of the mummy (Figures 3-
201 5, 7, 14, 16). Arms were arranged along the body, and hands rested on the thighs
202 (Figures 3, 4). All cervical vertebrae were present (Figure 15). Thoracic vertebrae
203 were in a poor state of preservation (Figures 2, 5, 14). The mummy itself is covered
204 by two layers of bandages [10]. From the initial visual examination, the deepest
205 (inner) layer was the original bandaging, blackened with embalmer balms [10]
206 (Figures 2, 5-11, 14-16). The outer layer was made of large bandages that seems to
207 have been applied after a restoration [10] (Figures 2, 4, 6, 10, 15, 16).
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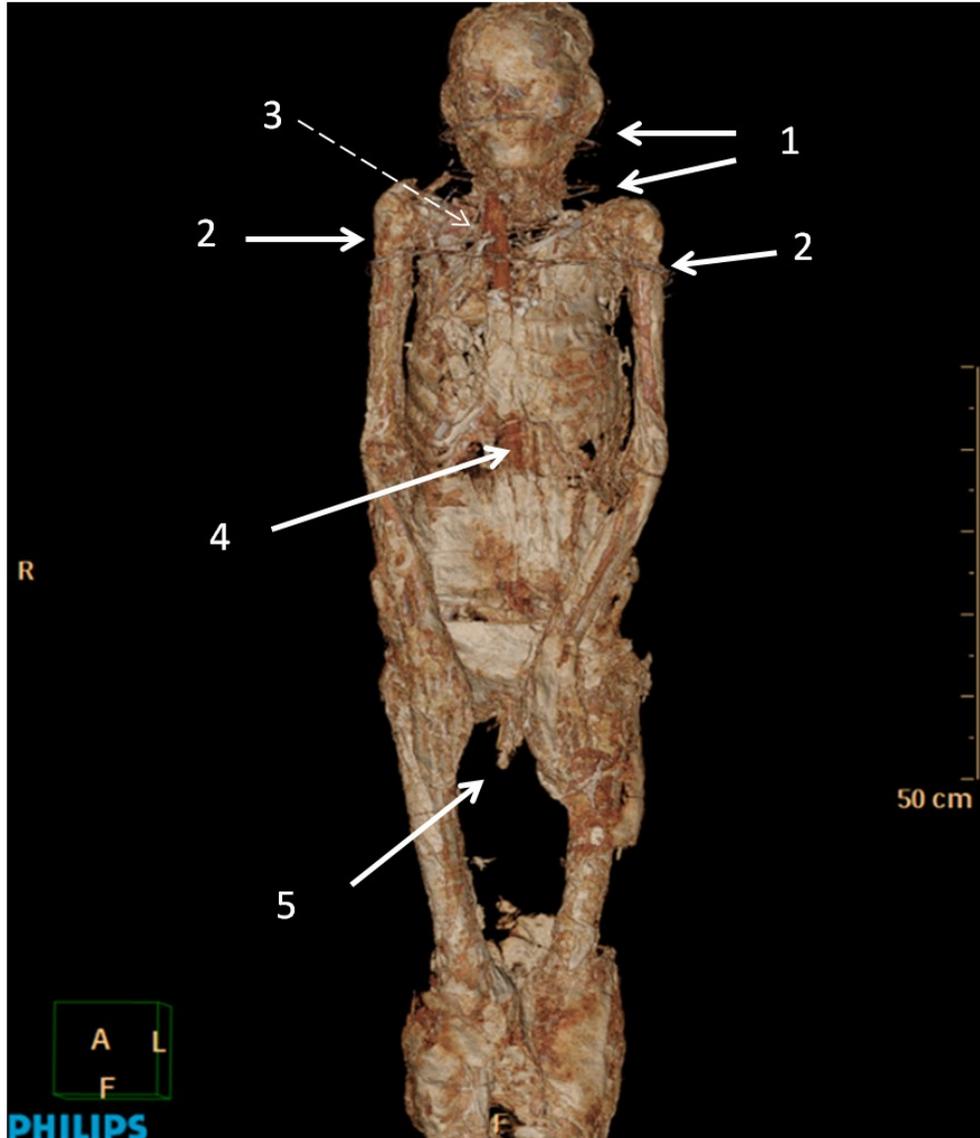
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Fig. 2. General view of the 3D CT scan of the mummy from the left lateral side. 1. Outer layer of bandages at the level of the abdominal wall. 2a. Inner layer of bandages at the posterior of the skull and of the neck. 2b. Inner layer of bandages on the back of the mummy. 2c. Skin on the front of the thoracic cage. 2d. Skin in the anterior pelvic area. 2e. Skin in the perineal area and around the penis. 2f. Package of linen on the back of the left knee. 2g. Middle layer of bandages on the anterior side of the left leg. 3. Wood stick from the pelvis to the clavicle area. 4a. Anterior wood plate. 4b. Posterior wood plate. 5a. Abdominal aorta. 5b. Material of undetermined origin in the thoracic cage and in the upper abdomen. 5c. Material of undetermined origin same as 5b in the lower abdomen. 6. Layers of bandages stuffed between the thighs.



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Fig. 3. 3D CT reconstruction of the mummy, anterior view. 1. Circles of metallic wire around the face and around the skull. 2. Metallic wire around the upper torso and around the upper part of both arms. 3. Dislocation of the mummy at the level of the sternoclavicular junction. 4. Wood stick oriented slightly to the right. 5. Embalmed penis.

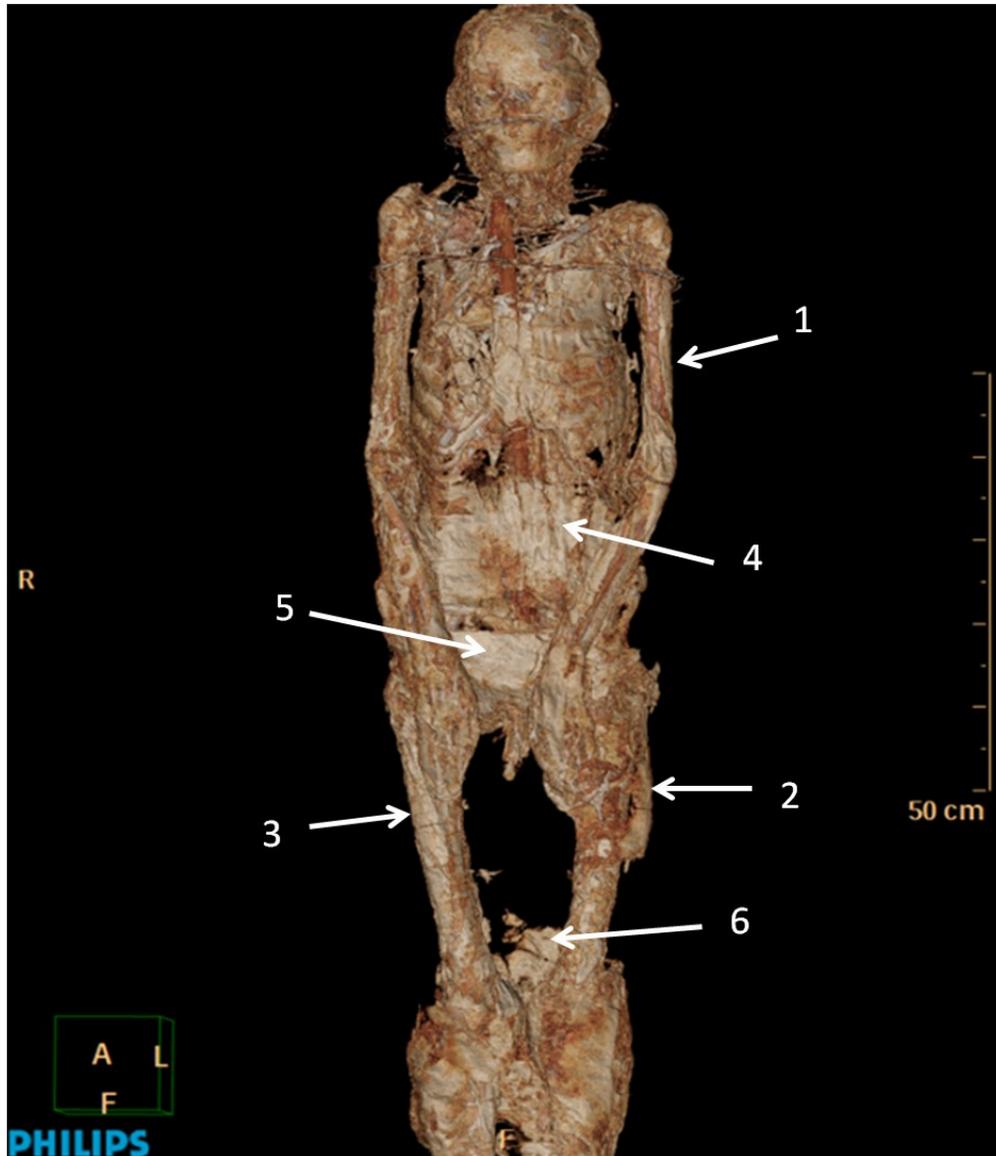


Fig. 4. 3D CT reconstruction of the mummy, anterior view. 1. Skin on the lateral side of the left arm. 2. Material of undetermined origin coated with resin on the lateral side of the left leg. 3. Skin on the lateral side of the right leg. 4. Skin on the abdominal wall. 5. Skin on the pelvic area. 6. Outer layer of bandages on the back of the legs.

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239 Sex identification

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241 The pelvic bones were broken in many places, so it was impossible to obtain sex
242 identification from the pelvis [10]. However, the sex of the mummy was identified
243 as male, as we found a well-preserved and embalmed penis on 3D CT scan [10]
244 (Figures 2-4).

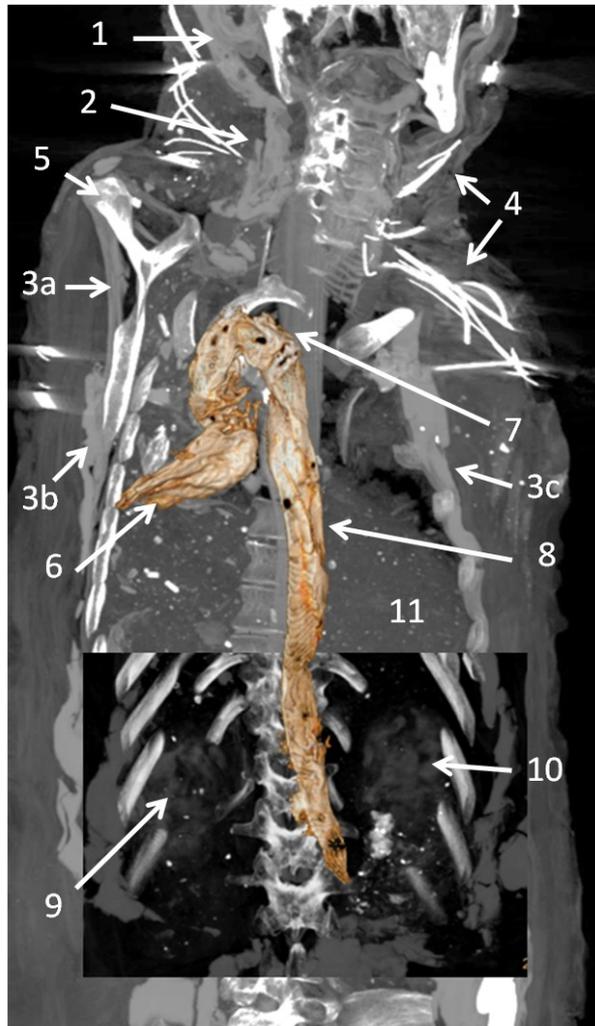
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246 Internal organs preservation

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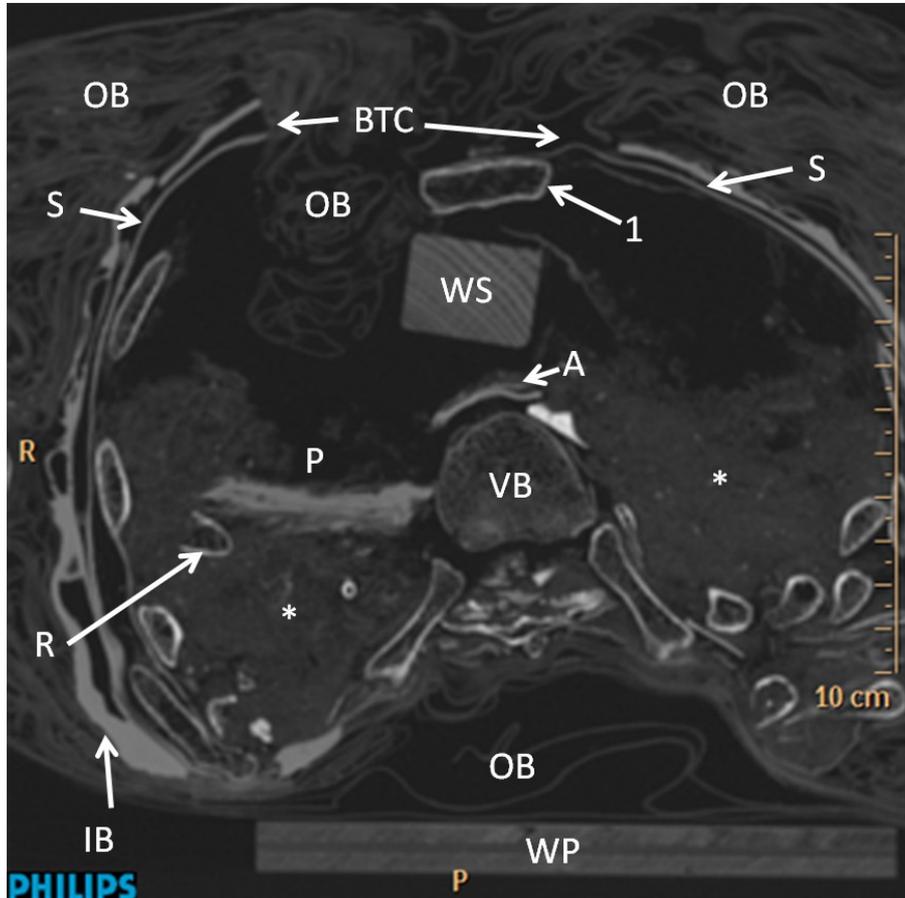
248 The mummified heart, cross of the aorta, and abdominal aorta were preserved in
249 the body [10] (Figures 2, 5, 6). There was a disruption of the body at the level of the
250 sternum and of the clavicle bones. A wood stick was found under the sternum, and it
251 was close to the thoracic vertebral body. The remnants of the pericardium were
252 dislodged to the right. The thoracic cavity was partially filled with radiopaque
253 substance of undetermined origin (Figures 2 (5b and 5c), 5, 6). The right and left
254 kidneys were still present in the body (Figure 5).

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Fig. 5. 2D CT reconstruction of the neck, upper and lower thoracic cage and of the posterior abdominal area. Superimposition of the 3D reconstructed pericardium and aorta. 1. Inner layers of bandages around the right side of the face. 2. Inner layers of bandages around the right side of the neck. 3a. skin around the right side of the thoracic cage. 3b. Inner layers of the bandages around the right side of the thoracic cage. 3c. Inner layers of bandages around the left side of the thoracic cage. 4. Metallic wires from the restoration of the upper torso of the mummy. 5. Right scapula in rotation. 6. Pericardium. 7. Cross of the aorta. 8. Abdominal aorta. 9. Right kidney. 10. Left kidney. 11. Material of undetermined origin inside the thoracic cage and in the abdomen.



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Fig. 6. 2D CT coronal view through the thoracic cage. 1. Sternum. S. Skin. IB. Inner layers of bandages. BTC. The thoracic cage was broken up and allowed with the entry of outer layers of bandages into the thoracic cage. WS. Wooden stick. P. Pericardium. A. The cross of the aorta. VB. Thoracic vertebral body. * Material of undetermined origin inside the thoracic cage. R. Rib. OB. Outer layers of bandages. WP. Main wood posterior plate.

The material of undetermined origin covers the lateral side of the pericardium (Figure 6 (*)). This means that this material was placed after the heart and aorta were replaced in the thoracic cage. The breaking of the anterior upper thoracic cage, the presence of wood stick, and the presence of outer layers of bandages inside the thoracic cage occurred after the primary embalming process, as part of a further restoration process.

284 Skull and face description

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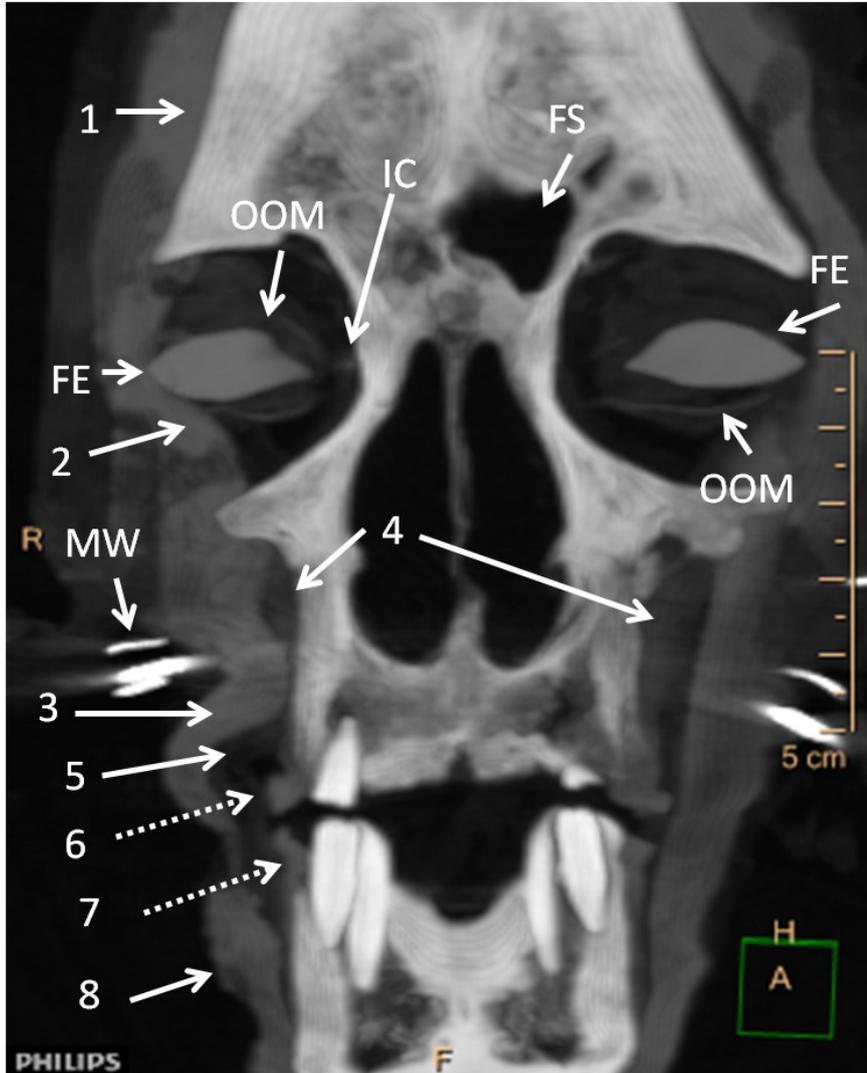
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For the skull and face description we used a methodology already presented in our previous study on computed tomography of skulls of Ancient Egyptian mummies [18].

Brain excerebration was performed through the right ethmoid bone pathway (Figures 8, 10, 11). The nasal septum was slightly deviated to the right in the posterior area (Figures 8, 10, 11) Dura mater was found in the occipital area of the skull (Figures 13, 15, 16). A wood stick was also embedded in the dura mater tissue inside the skull [18] (Figure 13), and resin was present close to the occipital bone (Figure 13). There were no ethmoid bone fragments found on 3D CT images of the skull (Figures 13, 16). There was also a dura cervical found in the cervical spine (Figure 15). At the level of the orbits we could still recognize the orbicularis oculi muscle and internal canthus (Figure 7). Eye globes were stuffed with the material of undetermined origin (Figures 2, 8-10, 13, 14, 16). The eye remnants are present as phthisis bulbi in the posterior area of the stuffed eye globes (Figures 11, 13, 16). There were some remnants of eye muscles on the upper and on the medial sides of the stuffed eye globes (Figures 8, 10, 11). Artificial eyes in cartonage were added above the stuffed eye globes (Figures 7, 12, 13, 16). The tongue was present on the floor of the mouth which was packed with multiple pieces of linen (Figures 8, 10, 11, 15). The mouth was closed (Figures 12, 15). Pieces of linen were present over the upper and the lower lip (Figure 15 (5a), (5b)). The submandibular area was packed with a piece of linen (Figure 15, (5c)). The skull and face were embalmed with multiple layers of inner bandages in sophisticated manner (Figures 7-11, 14-16). The nasal plugs were absent. Ears were also embalmed (Figure 16).



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Fig. 7. 2D CT frontal and anterior view of the face and of the skull of the mummy. FS. Left frontal sinus. FE: False eye, right and left. IC. Internal canthus of the right orbit. OOM. Eyelid and orbicularis oculi muscle, right and left. MW. Metallic wires. 1. Inner layer of bandages around the right frontal bone. 2. Inner layer of bandages around the right eye globe. 3. Inner layer of bandages around the right upper lips. 4. Skin. 5. Linen around the right upper lip. 6. Upper lip. 7. Lower lip. 8. Inner layer of bandages around the right mandible.

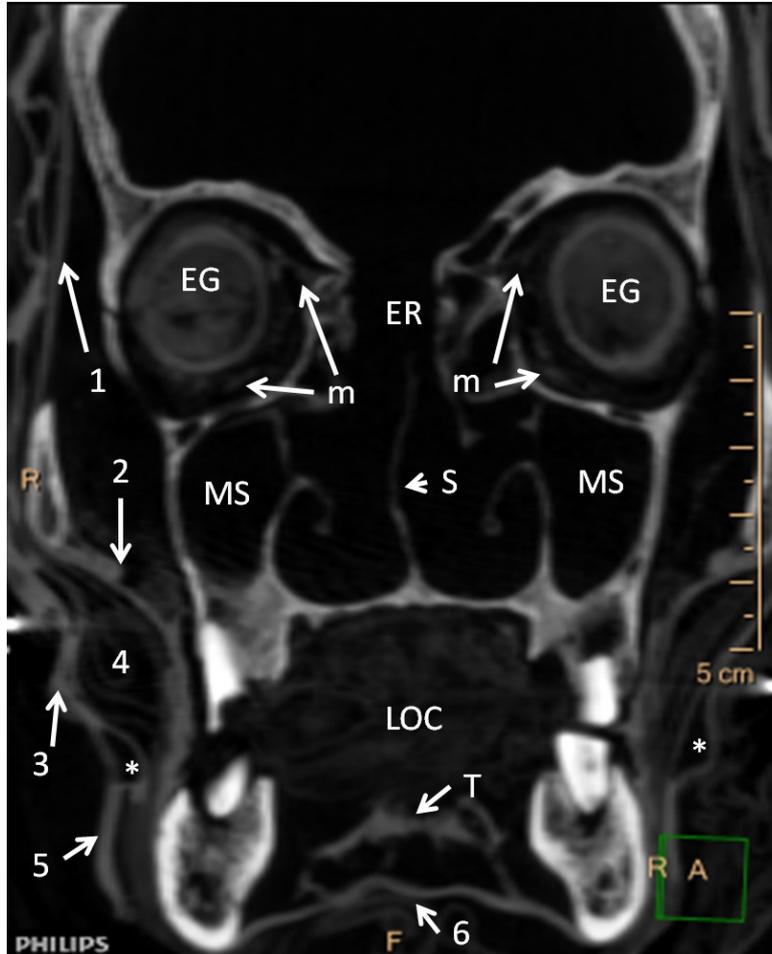


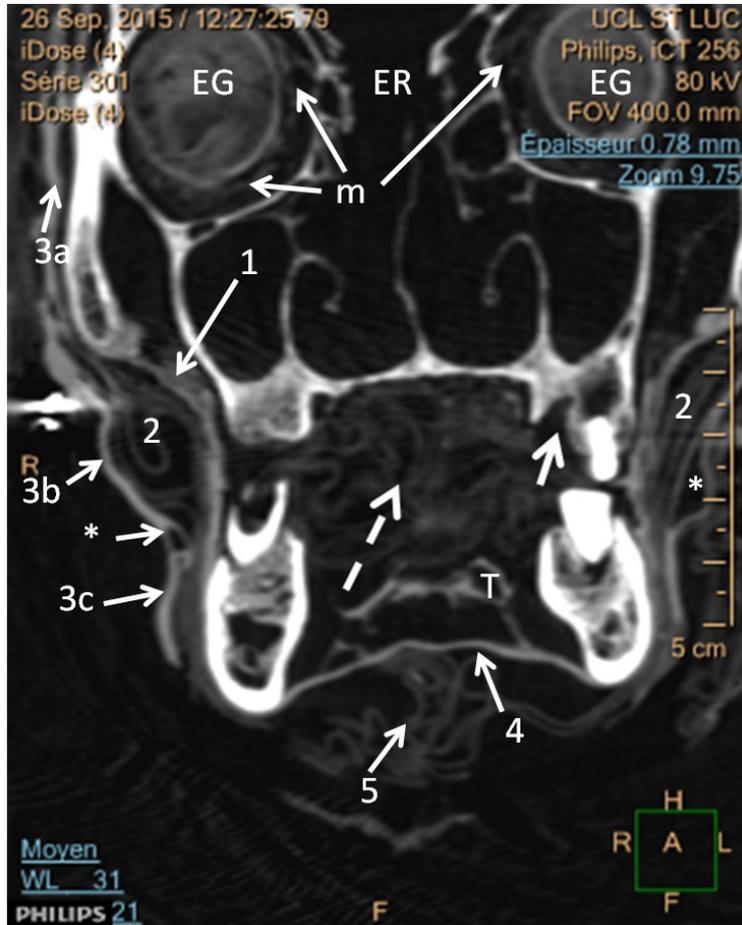
Fig. 8. 2D CT coronal view of the skull and face. EG. Eye globe stuffed with the material of undertermined origin. m. Remnants of eye muscles. ER. Excerebration road through the right ethmoid bone. S. Nasal septum slightly deviated to the right. MS. Maxillary sinus right and left, without alveolar maxillary bone pneumatisation. LOC. Linen inside the oral cavity. T. Tongue. 1. Skin of the right frontozygomatic area. 2. Skin of the right zygomaticomaxillary area. 3. Inner layer of bandages in the right zygomaticomaxillary area. 4. Linen at the level of the right cheek. 5. Inner layer of bandage around the mandible. 6. Skin of the floor of the mouth. *: double layer in the inner layer of bandages on the right and left side of the oral cavity, and at the level of the occlusal plane.

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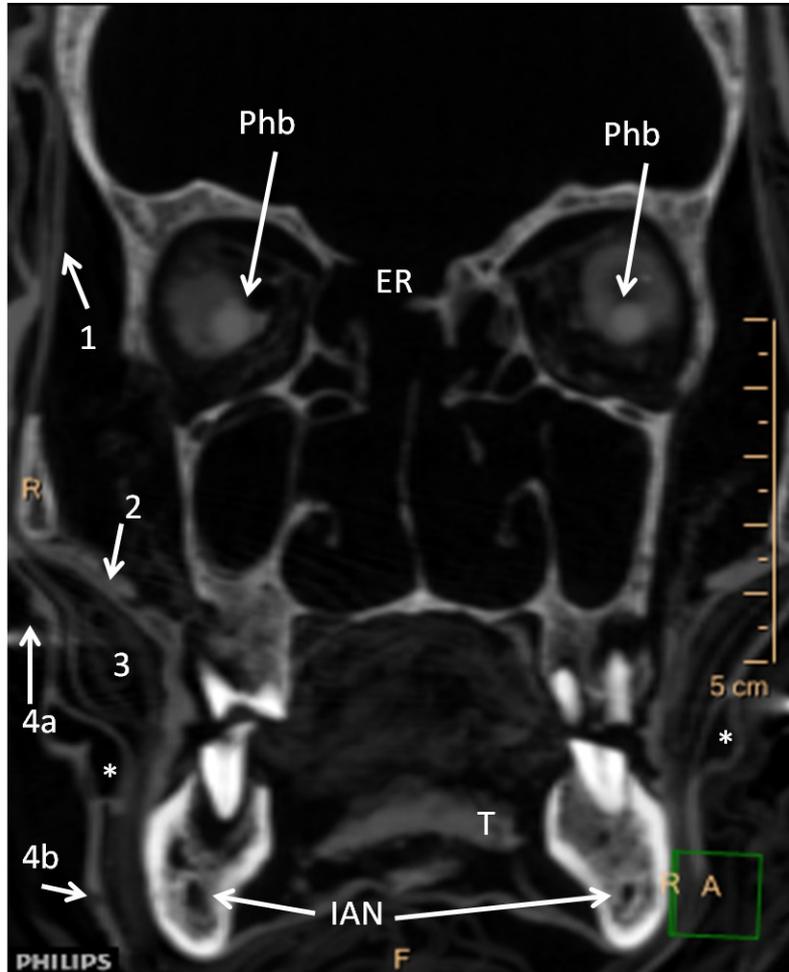
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Fig. 9. 2D CT sagittal view of the left side of the face. EG. Left eye globe stuffed with the material of underdetermined origin. 1. Outer layer of bandages. 2. Inner layer of bandages. 3a. Deeper inner layer of bandages around the anterior maxilla and the anterior mandible. 3b. Deeper inner layer of bandages under the anterior mandible. 3c. Double layer of the deeper inner layer of bandages under the posterior mandible. 4a. Skin of the upper lip. 4b. Skin over the anterior maxilla. 5a. Skin of the lower lip. 5b. Skin of the anterior mandible area. 6. Skin of the horizontal body of the mandible. Tooth 25: empty alveolar socket of tooth n°25 containing initially two roots. Tooth 26: mesiovestibular and distovestibular roots of tooth n°26. Tooth n°27: osteolytic chronic lesion around the mesiovestibular and distovestibular roots of tooth n°27. Tooth n°28: osteolytic lesion distal to tooth n°28, and opened to the oral cavity. Tooth n°37: osteolytic lesion around the mesial root of tooth n°37. Periodontal disease around the distal root of tooth n°37. Tooth n°38: terminal periodontal disease around the mesial and distal roots of tooth n°38.



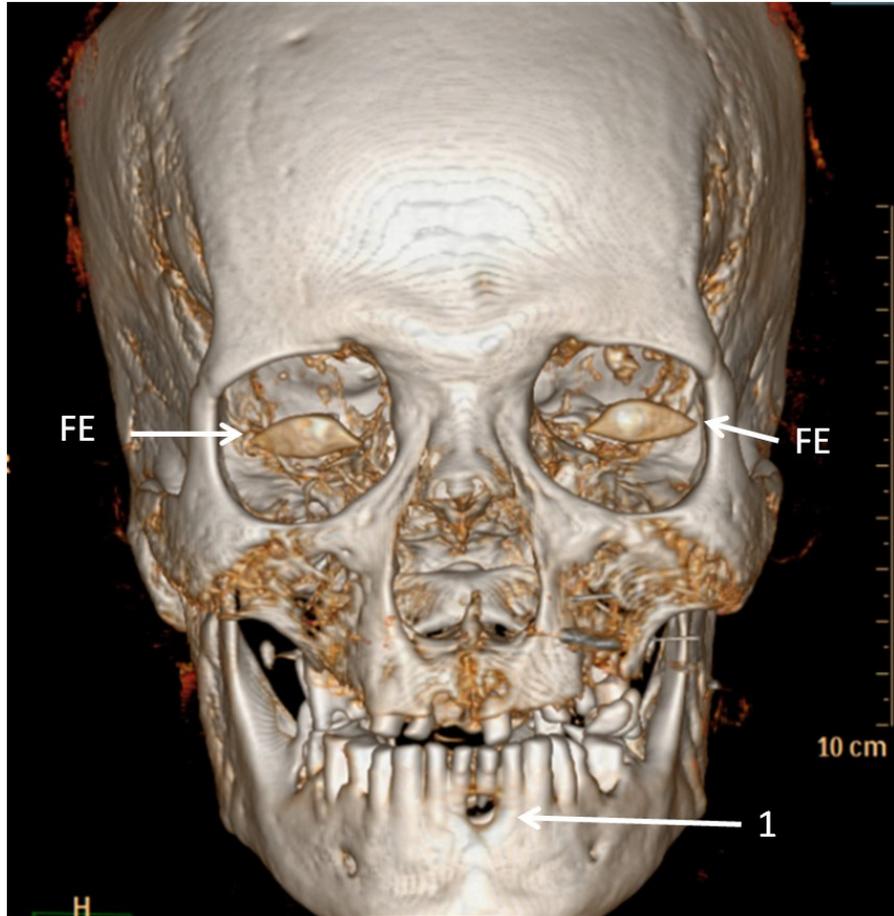
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Fig. 10. 2D CT frontal view of the mummy's face. EG. eye globes stuffed with the material of undetermined origin. m. Remnants of eye muscles. ER. Excerebration road. T. Tongue. Arrow: empty alveolar cavity for palatine root of tooth n°26. Dashed arrow: a piece of linen inside the oral cavity. 1. Skin of the right zygomaticomaxillary area. 2. Linen between the skin and the inner layer of bandages at the level of the right and left cheek. 3a. Inner layer of bandages at the level of the right frontozygomatic area. 3b. Inner layer of bandages at the level of the cheeks. 3c. Inner layer of bandages at the level of the mandible. 4. Skin at the level of the floor of the mouth. 5. Outer layer of bandages under the oral cavity. *: double layer in the inner layer of the bandage on the right and left side of the oral cavity, and at the level of the occlusal plane on the left side.



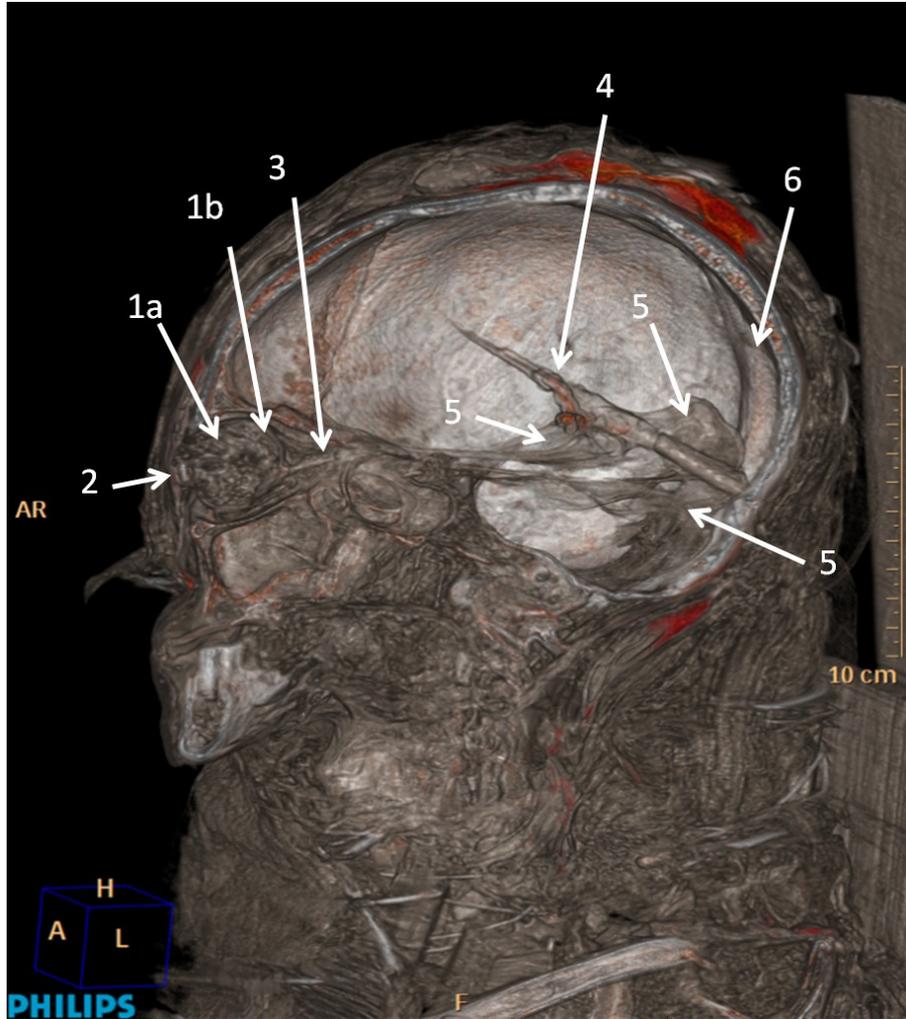
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Fig. 11. 2D CT frontal view of the mummy's face. Phb. Phthisis bulbi in the posterior area of the stuffed eye globes. ER: Excerebration road through the right ethmoid bone. 1. Skin of the right frontozygomatic area. 2. Skin of the zygomaticomaxillary area. 3. Linen between the skin and the inner layer of bandages at the level of the right cheek. 4a. Inner layer of bandages at the level of the cheeks. 4b. Inner layer of bandages at the level of the mandible. *: double layer in the inner layer of the bandage on the right and left side of the oral cavity, and at the level of the oclusal plane on the right and left side. T. Tongue. IAN. Well corticalized canal of the right and left inferior alveolar nerve.



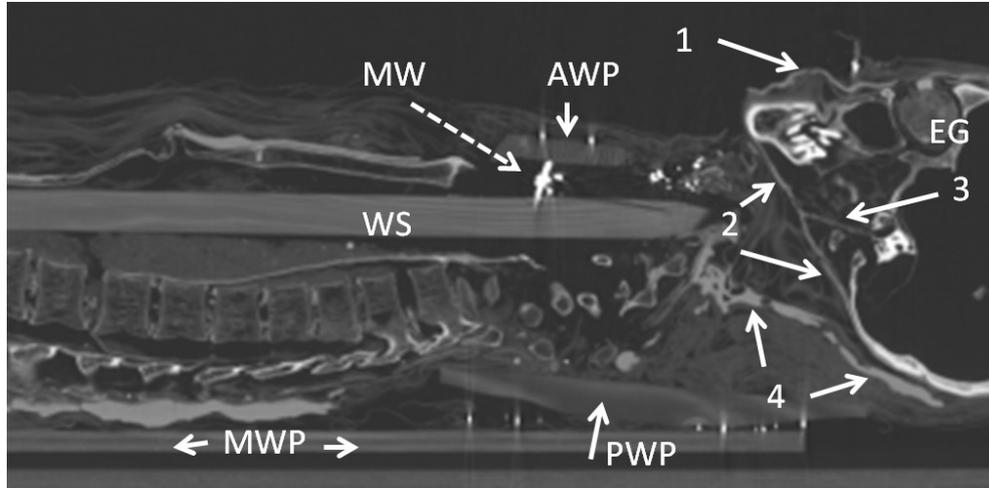
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Fig. 12. 3D CT reconstruction of the head and skull of the mummy. Frontal view. Bone reconstruction. FE. False eye (cartonage). The skull and face have no fractures. 1. Osteolytic lesion around the root of tooth n°31 with perforation of the vestibular and of the lingual cortical bone.



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Fig. 13. 3D CT reconstruction of the head and neck of the mummy, and showing the inside of the skull. Lateral view. 1a. Stuffing of the eye globe. 1b. Phthisis bulbi. 2. False eye (cartonage). 3. Intact optic nerve. 4. Stick embedded in dura mater inside the skull. 5. Layers of dura mater. 6. Resin layer in the back of the skull against the occipital bone.



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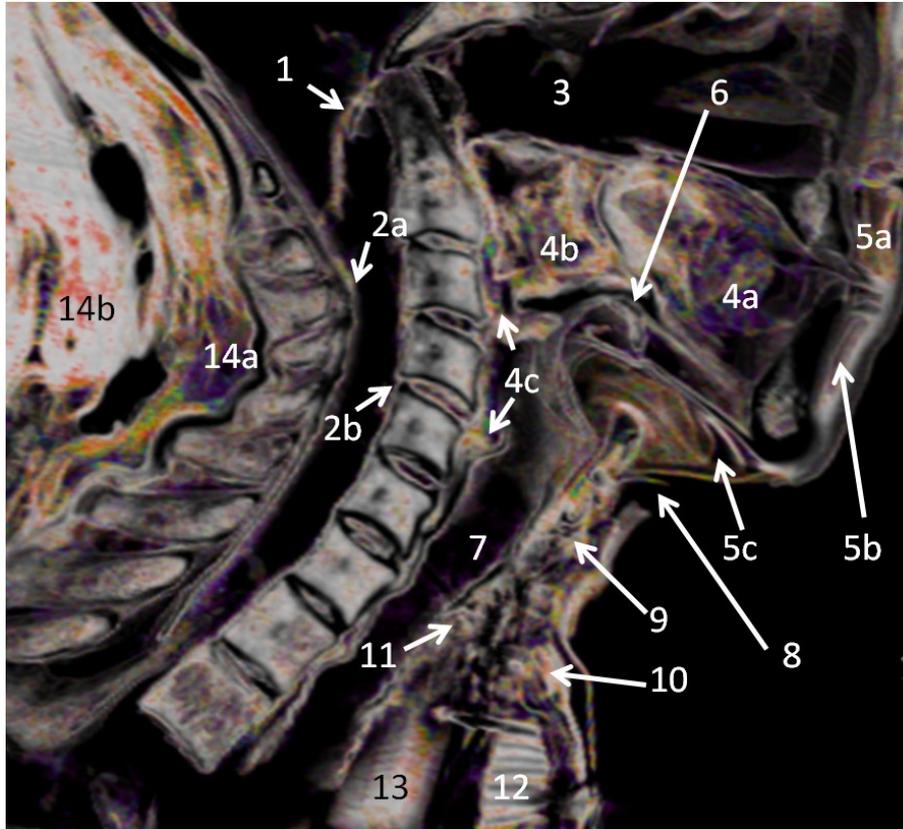
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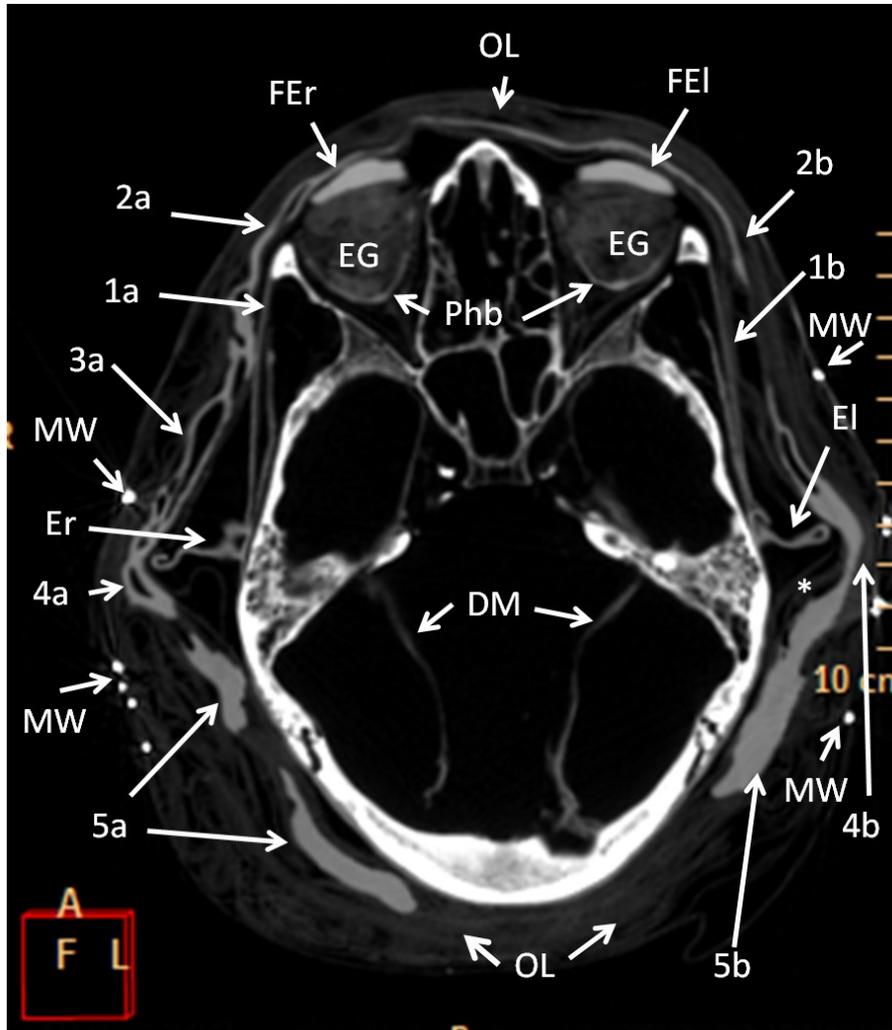
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Fig. 14. 2D CT general view of the mummy. Lateral view. MWP. Main wood plate. WS. Wood stick. AWP. Anterior wood plate. PWP. Posterior wood plate. MW. Metallic wire node under the AWP. EG. Stuffed eye globe. 1. Inner layer of bandages around the face. 2. Skin under the body of the mandible up to the occipital bone. 3. Skin along the vertical ramus of the mandible. 4. Inner layer of bandages around the back of the skull and the back of the neck area.



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Fig. 15. 3D CT midsagittal view of the face and the neck. 1. Dura mater inside the skull. 2a. Posterior cervical dura. 2b. Anterior cervical dura. 3. Empty nasal cavity. 4a. The anterior oral cavity was filled with a piece of linen; the mouth was closed, and the linen was disposed between the front teeth. 4b. Posterior oral cavity filled with a piece of linen. 4c. Piece of linen in oesophagus. 5a. A piece of linen filling the subnasale area. 5b. A piece of linen filling the suprmentale area. 5c. A piece of linen filling the submandibular area. 6. The tongue. 7. Trachea. 8. Discontinuity in the skin in the upper cervical area under the mandible. 9. A piece of linen filling the upper cervical area. 10. A piece of linen filling the anterior and lower cervical area. 11. A piece of linen filling the posterior and lower cervical area. 12. Additional piece of wood. 13. Wood stick. 14a. Inner layers of bandages in the posterior neck area. 14b. Outer layers of bandages in the posterior neck area.



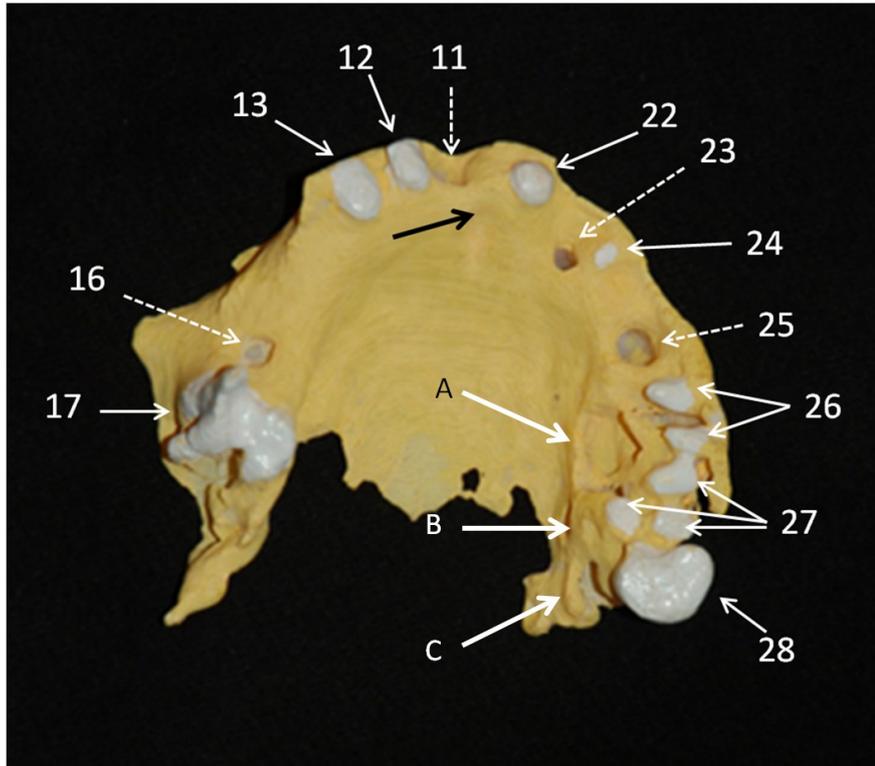
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Fig. 16. 2D CT axial view of the mummy's face and skull. FEr. False eye left. FEI. False eye right. OL. Outer layers of bandages. EG. Stuffing of eye globes. Phb. Phthisis bulbi. DM. Dura mater inside the skull. MW. Metallic wires around the head. Er. Ear right. EI. Ear left. 1a. Skin in the right temporal area. 1b. Skin in the left temporal area. 2a. Inner layer of bandages around the right orbit. 2b. Inner layer of bandages around the left orbit. 3a. Inner layer of bandages in the right temporal area. 3b. Inner layer of bandages in the left temporal area. 4a. Inner layers of bandages around the right ear. 4b. Inner layers of bandages around the left ear. * A piece of linen around the left ear. 5a. Inner layer of bandages in the right parietal and occipital area. 5b. Inner layer of bandages in the left parietal and occipital area.

430 Dental status

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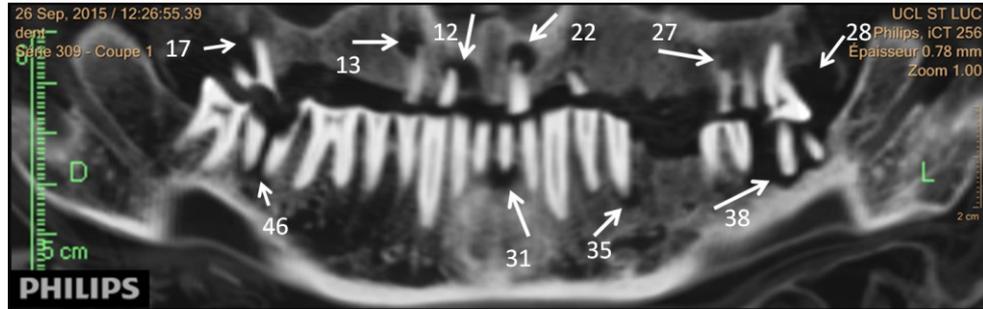
The right and left sides of the maxillary dental arch were easily recognizable as the incisive canal opening was clearly present on the palatine midline of the upper maxilla in the 3D printed model (black arrow) (Figure 17).



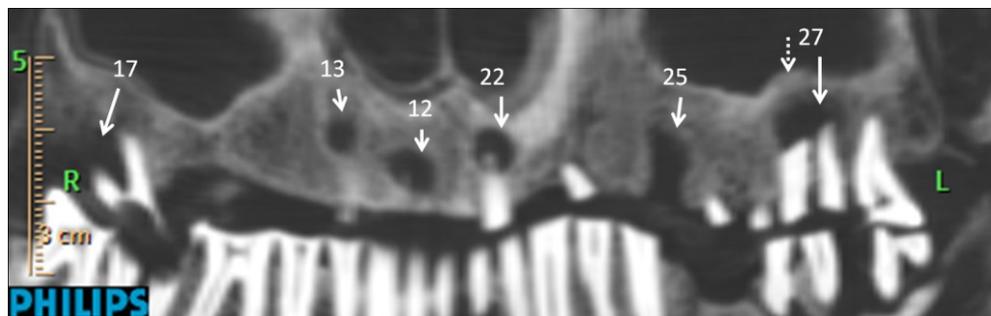
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Fig. 17. Three-dimensional printed model of the upper maxilla. Superior view of the dental arch and of the hard palate. The remaining teeth were painted white, whereas the bone was painted yellow. The black arrow indicates the incisive canal on the midline. White arrows indicate teeth that are still present, and dashed arrows indicate empty alveolar sockets. The numbering of teeth follows the International Dental Federation's system. A. Artificial hole on the palatine side of tooth n°26. B. Artificial bone indentation on the palatine side of tooth n°27. C. Artificial opening of bone osteolytic lesion on the palatine and distal side of tooth n°28.

448 The upper maxilla and the mandible presented with multiple dental lesions (Figures
449 18, 19).



450
451 **Fig. 18.** 2D CT pseudo-panoramic view of the dentition. Tooth n°12:
452 osteolytic lesion around the root of tooth n°12. Tooth n°13: osteolytic lesion
453 around the root of tooth n°13. Tooth n°17: periodontal disease around roots
454 of tooth n°17. Tooth n°22: osteolytic lesion around the root of tooth n°22.
455 Tooth n°27: osteolytic lesion around the mesial root of tooth n°27. Tooth
456 n°28: osteolytic lesion distal to tooth n°28. Tooth n°31: osteolytic lesion
457 around the root of tooth n°31. Tooth n°35: osteolytic lesion around the root of
458 tooth n°35. Tooth n°38: periodontal disease around mesial and distal roots of
459 tooth n°38. Tooth n°46: rarefying osteitis around apices of mesial and distal
460 roots of tooth n°46.

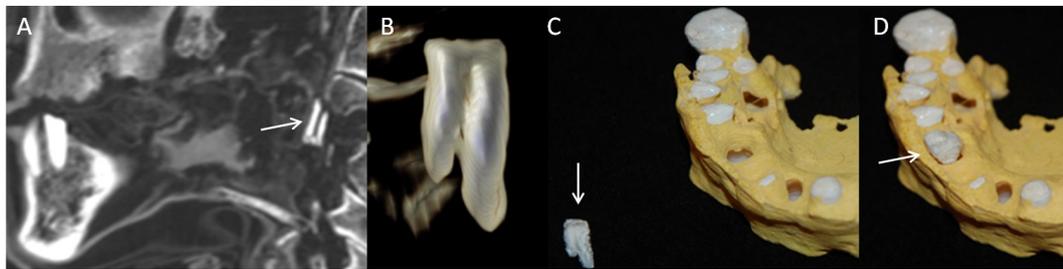


461
462 **Fig. 19.** 2D CT pseudo-panoramic view of the dentition. Tooth n°12:
463 osteolytic lesion around the root of tooth n°12. Tooth n°13: osteolytic lesion
464 around the root of tooth n°13. Tooth n°17: periodontal disease around roots
465 of tooth n°17. Tooth n°22: osteolytic lesion around the root of tooth n°22.
466 Tooth n°25: tooth socket with imprint of two roots at the level of absent tooth
467 n°25. Tooth n°27: osteolytic lesion around the mesial and distal roots of
468 tooth n°27. Dotted arrow: expansion of the lesion inside the left maxillary
469 sinus floor.

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472 On the upper maxilla, some teeth were still present, including the right lateral
 473 incisor (n°12), the right canine (n°13), the right second molar (n°17), the left lateral
 474 incisor (n°22), the left first premolar (n°24), and the first (n°26), second (n°27), and
 475 third left molars (n°28) (Figure 17). All of these teeth presented with major abrasion
 476 of their crowns, which is a common finding in Ancient Egyptian mummies [9].
 477 Three open alveolar sockets existed at the level of the first right incisor (n°11), the
 478 left canine (n°23), and the left second premolar (n°25) (Figure 17). The left central
 479 incisor (n°21), the first (n°14) and second right premolar (n°15), and the third right
 480 molar (n°18) were absent from the upper maxilla. Only the left first molar (n°36)
 481 was absent from the mandible (Figure 18).
 482 We also found a tooth left in the oesophagus with an abraded crown, and two roots
 483 (one longer and one shorter) (Figure 20).



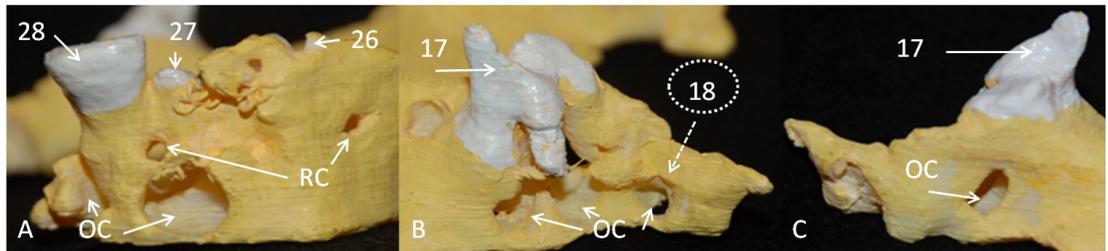
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485 **Fig. 20.** Tooth found in the oesophagus. A. Two-dimensional image of the
 486 tooth and of the surrounding area. B. Three-dimensional reconstruction of
 487 the tooth with an abraded crown and broken roots. C. Three-dimensional
 488 printed tooth and 3D model of the upper maxilla. D. The second left premolar
 489 (n°25) in place again.

490

491 The 3D printed the tooth was found in the oesophagus. We checked its anatomical
 492 position in relation to the existing open alveolar sockets. There were no empty
 493 alveolar sockets in the mandible. We concluded that the tooth was a second left
 494 premolar (n°25). There were also resorbed alveolar sockets at the level of the first
 495 right molar (n°16), and first left premolar (n°24). Multiple teeth presented with
 496 apical lesions (Figures 18, 19). The creation of apical osteolytic lesions is related to
 497 the opening of dental pulp by abrasion phenomena, pulp necrosis, and bacterial
 498 migration from an abraded crown pulp chamber, through the root canal to the tooth
 499 apex, and to the bone. The shape of bony osteolytic lesions can be spherical, oval, or
 500 multilobular [19]. Figure 19 shows the apical lesion on the maxilla at the level of the
 501 lateral right incisor (n°12), the right canine (n°13), the left lateral incisor (n°22), and
 502 the first left molar (n°26). The developing osteolytic lesion may have slowly eroded
 503 the surrounding bone; and may have created an opening through the cortical bone on
 504 either the vestibular and/or the palatine side. The vestibular side was eroded in the
 505 first place (Figure 21) as it is less thick than the palatine cortical bone (Figure 23).
 506 Larger openings in cortical bones (OCs) indicate a longer period during which a
 507 lesion progressed in the living patients. Smaller openings in cortical bones (RCs)

508 indicate a shorter period during which a lesion progressed in the living patients
509 (Figure 21).
510 Such lesions are present on the 3D upper maxilla model at the level of the second
511 right molar (n°17), and on the first (n°26), second (n°27) and third left molars (n°28)
512 (Figure 21). We can also see the apical lesion perforating the vestibular bone at the
513 level of the third right molar (n°18) which is missing from the dental arch (Figure
514 21).



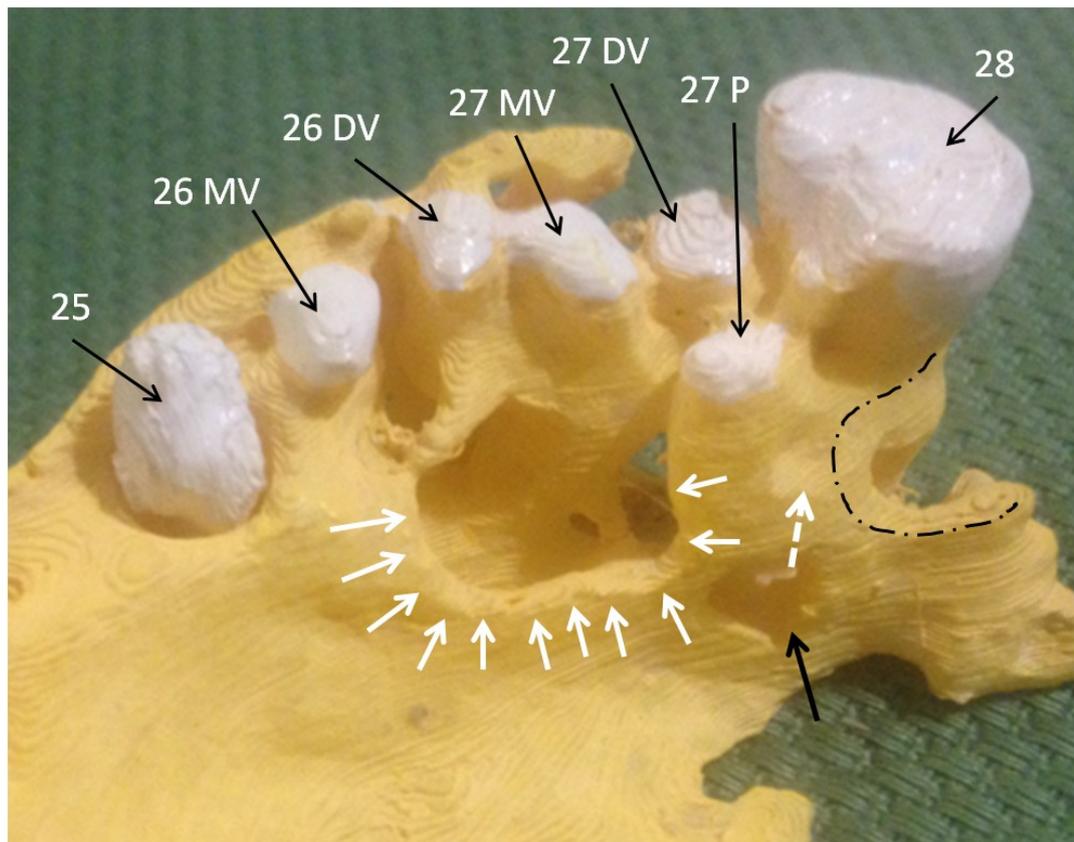
515 **Fig. 21.** Three-dimensional printed model of the upper maxilla. Apical lesions perforating the vestibular and palatine sides of the upper maxilla. A. Vestibular side lesions related to teeth n°28, n°27, and n°26. OC: Older cavity. RC: Recent cavity. B. Vestibular lesions related to teeth n°17 and to missing tooth, n°18. C. Palatine lesion related to tooth n°17. OC: Older cavity. RC: Recent cavity.

523 The second right molar (n°17) presented with egression, which is a slow
524 downward movement of a tooth, bone, and surrounding mucosa that occurs during a
525 patient's life to reach specific occlusal contact with the lower second right molar
526 (n°47) (Figure 22). The tooth n°17 is therefore misaligned with the bony lesions it
527 had created.
528



529 **Fig. 22.** Superior second right molar (n°17) in egression, with specific occlusal contact with the inferior second right molar (n°47). Arrows show bone lesions around the apex of tooth n°17. The dashed arrow shows the linen packed inside the mouth as part of the embalming process.

534 The growing bone osteolytic lesions that are close together may present more
 535 complex 3D shapes as they can fuse together over time. Here, we can see in the 3D
 536 printed model that bone lesion cavities are all fused together between the remaining
 537 two vestibular roots of the first left molar (n°26), the three roots of the second left
 538 molar (n°27), and the third left molar (n°28), which has only one main root (Figure
 539 23).



540 **Fig. 23.** Three-dimensional printed model of the upper maxilla. View from
 541 the palatine side of the second left premolar (n°25), the first (n°26), the
 542 second (n°27), and the third left molars (n°28). MV: mesiovestibular root.
 543 DV: distovestibular root. P: palatine root. At the level of the missing palatine
 544 root of tooth n°26 there is a missing bone box with straight angles (white
 545 arrows). The old osteolytic lesion opens at the level of the palatine root apex
 546 of the left second molar (n°27) (black arrow). The presence of bone
 547 indentation with straight angles on the palatine side of the palatine root of
 548 the second left molar (n°27) (white dashed arrow). Anteroposterior and
 549 oblique bone loss at the level of the palatine side of the third left molar (n°28)
 550 (black dashed line).
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The palatine root of the first left molar (n°26) is missing on the 3D printed model of the upper maxilla, as it is missing on the 3D CT scan (Figures 17, 23). However, it was once present, as we can still see its massive alveolar shape as depicted in Figure 10.

The 3D-printed model of the upper maxilla also shows numerous unusual elements (Figures 17, 23):

- 1) rectangular box of missing cortical bone at the palatine side at the level of the missing palatine root of the first left molar (n°26);
- 2) bone indentation on the palatine side of the palatine root of the second left molar (n°27); and
- 3) anteroposterior, curved, semilunar, and oblique bone loss at the level of the distal and palatine side of the third left molar (n°28) (Figures 17, 23, 24).

The bone box space at the level of missing palatine root of the first left molar (n°26) presents with straight angles, which never occurs in natural bone lesion evolution [19] (Figures 17, 23). The box measures 9 mm and presents with an artificial shape. The edges have smoothed as the bone had time to heal, which means that the lesion appeared before the death of Osirmose.

The bone indentation at the level of the palatine side of the palatine root of the second left molar (n°27) does not corresponds to any anatomical variation nor to any pathological modification of the maxillary bone in this area (Figures 17, 23).

Bone loss at the palatine and distal side of the third left molar (n°28) corresponds to the opening of the “floor” of the osteolytic lesion, which is present around tooth n°28. The “ceiling” of the lesion is related to the apex of the tooth (Figures 17, 23, 24). The 3D printed model shows a tunnel which links older osteolytic lesions at the apex of the third left molar (n°28) and the second left molars (n°27), and presents with a cortical round palatine bone opening (black arrow) (Figure 23). The presence of bone loss on the distal and palatine side of the third left molar (n°28) does not correspond to the natural evolution of bone osteolytic lesion that perforate the cortical bone at the level of the apical tooth area.

582

Discussion

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The example of the history related to Osirmose’s mummy shows us the complexity of studying, understanding, and interpreting traces and clues left by the Egyptian civilization. Osirmose’s mummy as well as the mummies of his father and mother travelled to Europe as they were part of international trade related to Egyptomania followed by Napoleon’s Egyptian campaign [20]. Furthermore, Osirmose’s mummy went through the turmoil of the initial creation of Egyptian collections in European museums with mistakes such as inversion of sarcophagi between mummies [10]. The body of Osirmose’s mummy was also restored in modern times, adding further complexity to the endeavour to understand its anatomy. The sex of Osirmose was obscured for decades due to misinterpretation of

593 X-ray imaging performed in the 1990s [16], and due to further dissemination of this
594 error through a textbook by renowned Egyptologists [14]. With a help of
595 multidisciplinary team, we have reasserted the male sex of Osirmose's mummy
596 (Figures 2-4). Although the heart is the central organ in the ancient Egyptian
597 civilization body understanding, only 4 previous cases of heart preservation were
598 described in the literature [21, 22]. The heart was positioned by the embalmers on
599 the right side to the vertebral spine after the thoracic cage was emptied of its organs
600 (Figures 5, 6). The heart of Ramses II (XIX Dynasty) was also found to be
601 repositioned on the right side by embalmers [20].
602 Retroperitoneal organs were not extracted from the body [23], and we found 2
603 preserved kidneys in true anatomical places (Figure 5). A broken wood stick such as
604 the one that we found in Osirmose's skull has already been found in other mummies
605 skulls, such as the bamboo stick described by Cavka et al [24], and wood fragments
606 described by Wade et al [21]; these sticks may be present due to an accident that
607 occurred during the use of an instrument of natural origin to remove the brain, and
608 dura from the skull (Figure 13). False eyes over the true eye globe were another
609 extrinsic element added to the mummy (Figures 7, 12-14, 16) [13].
610

611 Initial visual examination provided the impression that Osirmose's mummy was
612 covered by two layers of bandages: the outer layer placed during a modern
613 restoration and the inner layer blacked with embalming substances. However, 3D
614 CT high-resolution CT showed that the inner layer was the result of a sophisticated
615 embalming procedure with details such as the double layer in the inner layer of the
616 bandage on the right and left side of the oral cavity, and at the level of the occlusal
617 plane on the right and left side (Figures 8, 10, 11).

618 There was also complex facial and cervical linen stuffing of different anatomical
619 areas such around the ears (Figure 16), in subnasale, supramentale, submaxillary,
620 jugal and in cervical regions (Figures 7, 8, 10, 11, 15)

621 The mouth was closed (Figures 12, 13, 15) with a piece of linen between anterior
622 teeth (Figure 15). Therefore, the mouth opening ceremony as described by Ruhli et
623 al [25] and occurring in the description of analyses of other mummies, was not used
624 by Osirmose's embalmers. All these details were present and found on 3D CT
625 images because the head of the mummy remained intact until our times (Figures 2-4,
626 12-14). This also means that artificial holes we found in the maxilla were executed
627 before the death of Osirmose, and are not due to further post-mortem destruction of
628 the mummy (Figures 17, 23). The tooth we found in the oesophagus (Figure 20) may
629 not be in this location due to an accident that occurred during embalming but rather
630 due to a process performed with premeditation, as teeth have already been found in
631 the skull of a mummy from the XXIIth Dynasty [25], in the larynx [25] or between
632 layers of bandages in the back and leg areas [26]. Comparing the difference between
633 the quality of embalming of the face and the traces of the accident during
634 excerebration one might think that embalmers worked in highly specialized teams,
635 and each specific part of the embalming process was in the hands of different
636 specialists [20].
637

Most advanced bone lesions and wear occurred in the maxilla (Table 1) when

638 compared to the mandible (Table 2). Egression occurred during the asymmetric wear
 639 process (Figures 12, 18, 19, 22). Osteolytic bone lesions were reproduced at
 640 successive levels starting from the upper side of the maxilla and continuing to the
 641 level of the alveolar bone process (Figure 22). The majority of teeth in the maxilla
 642 were lost. Bone lesions were much more aggressive in the maxilla than in the
 643 mandible (Table 1, Figures 18, 19). Such asymmetric cases of tooth wear and tooth
 644 loss in the upper jaw are present in modern patients with Pica (eating non-nutritive
 645 substances) [27], and specifically with geophagia (deliberate eating of earth) [28]
 646 when eating argile (kaolinite or clay) [27] or eating seashells [29]. Clay was also
 647 reported to be eaten by Ancient Egyptian to treat the gut [28, 30]. The consumption
 648 of clay induces iron deficiency, aggressive periodontitis, tooth wear, and
 649 asymmetrical tooth loss which is more present in the maxilla than in the mandible
 650 [27-29]. Pica or geophagia may be one of the possible explanations for the
 651 asymmetric wear process found in Osirmose's mummy.

652 **Table 1.** Dental status of maxillary teeth. We applied International Dental
 653 Federation teeth numbering.

Teeth present on the dental arch	12, 13, 17, 22, 24, 26 (MV, DV), 27, 28
Teeth missing from the dental arch	11, 14, 15, 16, 18, 21, 23, 25, 26 (P)
Teeth fractured	None
Wear	All present teeth (massive effect on maxillary teeth)
Periapical lesion	12, 13, 17, 18, 22, 26, 27, 28
Recent cavities	26 (vestibular), 27 (vestibular)
Older cavities	17 (vestibular), 17 (palatine), 18 (vestibular), 22 (vestibular), 27 (vestibular), 27 (palatine), 28 (vestibular)
Caries	None
Teeth displaced	25 (oesophagus)
Visible empty socket	16, 23, 25
Abnormal structures	Rectangular hole on the palatine side of tooth n°26 (palatine root of tooth n°26 missing), indentation at right angle palatine to tooth n°27, semi-lunar shape of grooves around the osteolytic lesion distal and palatal to tooth n°28

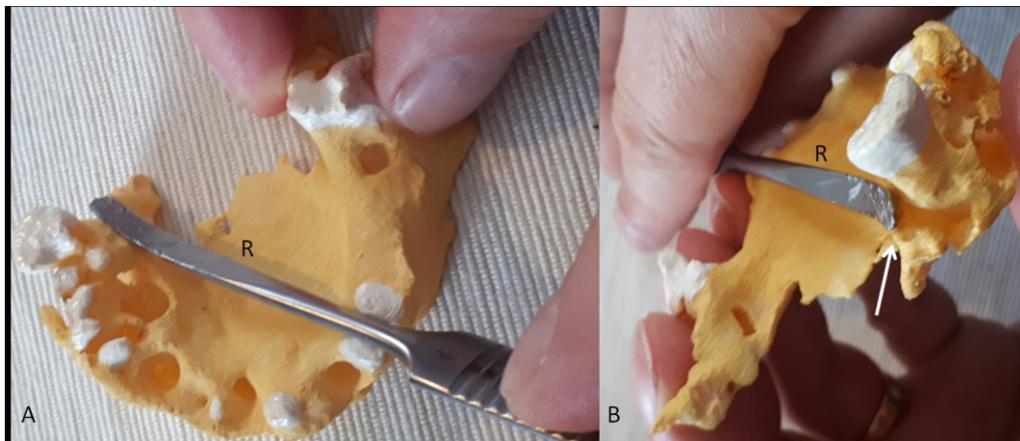
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660 **Table 2.** Dental status of mandibular teeth. We applied the International
661 Dental Federation teeth numbering.

Teeth present on the dental arch	31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48
Teeth missing from the dental arch	36
Teeth fractured	None
Wear	Yes (all teeth)
Periapical lesion	31, 35 (rarefying osteitis), 46 (rarefying osteitis), 37 (distal root, periodontal disease), 38 (periodontal disease)
Recent cavities	No
Older cavities	31 (vestibular)
Caries	None
Teeth displaced	None
Visible empty socket	None
Abnormal structures	None

662
663 Holes in the maxillary bone in a living person appear by progressive erosion of
664 bone walls starting around the apices of teeth. When the osteolytic bone lesion opens
665 finally through the cortical bone, the tension inside the bone cavity decreases, and
666 the pain for the patient is alleviated. The palatine cortical bone is much more
667 difficult to erode than the vestibular bone because of its thickness. If palatine bone
668 osteolysis occurs, it appears after vestibular bone erosion. For example, we can
669 compare the diameter of vestibular (larger) and palatine (smaller) round openings of
670 bone lesions at the level of the second left molar (n°27) (Figures 21A, 23).
671 Moreover, bone lesion opening initiates at the level of the apex of the root that was
672 infected, as it can be seen in the palatine lesion opening of an infected palatine root
673 of the second left molar (n°27), and of the third left molar (n°28) on the vestibular
674 side (Figure 21A.).
675 The missing bone box that we discovered at the palatine side of the first left molar
676 (n°26) (Figures 17, 23) is situated above a natural localization of the opening of an
677 osteolytic bone lesion, which opens through the bone at the level of the apex of the
678 tooth. Its shape does not correspond to any kind of osteolytic bone lesion described
679 in previous literature [19].
680 Our interpretation is that removal of the palatine root of the first left molar (n°26)
681 was performed in this case with an instrument (possibly metallic pliers), which
682 allowed the removal of the palatine root of the first left molar along with a piece of
683 the palatine cortical plate. The missing bone box therefore corresponds to a
684 “fingerprint” of the use of an oral surgery instrument. At that time, this type of
685 action allowed a large and immediate opening at the thick palatine side of the

686 infected bone lesion. Palatine root removal was minimally invasive, as two
 687 vestibular roots were preserved to allow the patient to continue eating [31]. This
 688 means that the notion of dental root anatomy was known, as upper molars have three
 689 roots, two vestibular and one palatine. After tooth removal, even in current
 690 procedures, a large bone lesion was opened, the inflammatory palatine mucosa was
 691 taken out, the pain was gradually decreased, and a local healing process could start.
 692 There was also another type of bone opening that was deliberately performed in the
 693 same living patient (Figures 17, 23). This time, an operator used a kind of bone
 694 curved raspator of approximately 5 mm large, which was long enough to reach the
 695 palatine posterior maxilla (Figure 24).



696
 697 **Fig. 24.** A. Possible general orientation of the raspator (R) to reach the
 698 osteolytic lesion on the palatine side of tooth n°28. B. Posterior view. The
 699 raspator (R) placed in the semilunar shaped lesion (arrow) at the palatine
 700 side of tooth n°28.

701
 702 This instrument cut the bone under or through the palatine mucosa and cut the
 703 underlying palatine bone corresponding to the floor of the major lesion around and
 704 distal to the third left molar (n°28) (Figure 24). Again, the missing bone area
 705 corresponds to a “fingerprint” of the instrument used that was left on the bone at the
 706 time of oral surgery. This lesion opening was not at a normal level for natural bone
 707 lesion openings in this patient, compared to other existing bone lesion openings in
 708 the same patient (Figure 21). This action served the same purpose of pain relief and
 709 speeding up the healing process of the complex bone osteolytic lesion around the
 710 third left molar (n°28). The third element we found was a small step at a right angle
 711 in the bone at the level of the palatine side of the palatine root of the second left
 712 molar (n°27) (Figures 17, 23). It either belonged to the same instrument and to the
 713 same action that was taken to open up the floor of the lesion around the third left
 714 molar (n°28), or it was linked to a previous oral surgery attempt in the same area.

715 Without local anaesthesia, this kind of surgery would be extremely painful therefore,
 716 it should only be done as a last choice medical treatment, and as quickly as possible,
 717 by a skilled person using adapted instruments.

718
 719 With this discovery, we hope that other expert teams may start searching for other
 720 hidden osseous geometric box holes and semilunar indentations in the maxilla
 721 and/or mandible and for “fingerprints” of potential instruments left for eternity in
 722 Egyptian museums’ mummy collections to further confirm our findings.

- 723
- 724 • **Acknowledgements:** We would like to thank Mr R. Mazy, the CEO and
 725 Professor J.P. Vanoverschelde, medical director of Cliniques universitaires saint
 726 Luc, Brussels, Belgium, for allowing us to use the 3D multi-resolution CT scan
 727 for non-medical purposes, outside working hours, and without any harm to
 728 patients. We would like to thank Mrs Marie-Hélène Grégoire from Presses
 729 Universitaires de Louvain for her art work (Figure 1, CC-BY-SA).
 - 730 • **Funding sources statement:** This study did not receive any funding.
 - 731 • **Competing interests:** Professor R. Olszewski is Editor-in-Chief of NEMESIS.
 732 The all other authors declare no conflicts of interest.
 - 733 • **Ethical approval:** there was no need for the ethical approval for this study.
 - 734 • **Informed consent:** there was no need for the informed consent for this study.

735 **Authors contribution:**

Author	Contributor role
Olszewski Raphael	Conceptualization, Data curation, Investigation, Methodology, Resources, Validation, Writing original draft preparation, Supervision, Writing review and editing
Hastir Jean-Philippe	Data curation, Resources, Writing original draft preparation, Writing review and editing
Tilleux Caroline	Writing original draft preparation, Writing review and editing
Delvaux Luc	Writing original draft preparation, Writing review and editing

Danse Etienne	Writing original draft preparation, Writing review and editing
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