A Rare Case of Odontogenic Keratocyst Crossing Lower Midline

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Case Presentation

A 12 year old female patient reported to the department of oral medicine and radiology with a chief complaint of swelling on the left chin noticed since last two months which was initially small in size and gradually increased to the present size, there was no period of remission or exacerbation. And not associated with pain or any other symptoms. The medical and dental history were non-contributory.

On extra oral examination Figure 1, a diffuse swelling seen on the left side of chin. On intra oral examination Figure 2a, 2b, on inspection, a solitary oval shaped swelling was noticed on the labial vestibule which is extending from the distal aspect of 33 to the distal aspect of 41. The swelling was found to be approximately 7cm X 1cm in size with well-defined margins and no change in the surrounding mucosa. Obliteration of labial vestibule was seen. Also 34, 35, 36 and 37 were found to be lingually inclined and 34 and 35 have grade 1 mobility. On palpation, all the inspectory findings were confirmed and the swelling was bony hard and non-tender on palpation.

On intraoral examination Figure 2a, 2b on inspection, a solitary oval shaped swelling was noticed on the labial vestibule which is extending from the distal aspect of 33 to the distal aspect of 41.
Intra Oral Periapical Radiograph Figure 3 revealed a well-defined radiolucency extending from 34 to 42 with sclerotic border. Panoramic radiograph Figure 4 revealed a solitary well defined oval shaped radiolucency with thin corticated border extending from 34 to 42 measuring 8cm X 3cm in size also shows displacement of root apex of 32 and 33. Lateral Mandibular occlusal radiograph Figure 5 revealed bicortical plate expansion from 33 to 42 and also shows scalloping between 32 and 33. Root Canal treatment was done on the affected region’s teeth i.e. 35, 34, 33,23,31,41 and 42 followed by cyst enucleation, and chemical cauterization using Carnoy’s solution was done; the biopsy specimen was sent for histopathologic examination, which revealed corrugated surface with parakeratinization and palisaded basal layer suggestive of Odontogenic Keratocyst (Figure 6). Patient was kept on follow up and recalled after 1 month and panoramic radiograph Figure 7 revealed bone formation in the previously affected region.

Discussion

OKC is a common developmental odontogenic keratocyst, and its biological behaviour is similar to a benign neoplasm [6]. Therefore, in the latest WHO classification of odontogenic tumors in 2005, it has been given the term keratocystic odontogenic tumor [7]. OKC are generally thought to be derived from either the epithelial remnants of the tooth germ or the basal cell layer of the surface epithelium [8,9]. OKC may be found in any age, with peak the prevalence between the age 10 and 40 years [9]. The mandible is involved in 60% to 80% of cases with a marked tendency to occur in the posterior body and ascending ramus [10]. However in this case, the lesion was present in anterior mandible.

Radiological examination of most of the cases reveals a well-defined radiolucency with thin corticated margins with the majority of these being unilocular, but larger lesions present as multilocular lesions [7,4].

The OKC shows highly distinct histopathological features with uniform cyst lining, wavy parakeratin formation, hyperchromatic, and palisaded basal cells and a flat interface between the epithelium and underlying connective tissue wall. When the cyst is inflamed, these classic microscopic features are often completely lost, which can lead to an inappropriate diagnosis. NBCCS (also known as Gorlin-Goltz syndrome or jaw cyst-basal cell nevus-bifid rib syndrome) should be considered when a patient presents with multiple OKCs. NBCCS is an inherited genetic condition which occurs due to mutation of the PTCH1 gene. Palmar and plantar pits, bifid ribs, multiple basal cell cancers of the skin and calcified falx cerebri are the other findings of this syndrome. The lesions found with NBCCS are comparatively less aggressive than traditional basal cell epithelioma, because of this the
designation “nevoid,” or having biologic behaviour more similar to a nevus was mentioned.

**Conclusion**

This case has defined that, the clinical impression and radiographic picture are not distinctive enough to be used as the only standard for rendering a diagnosis of any cyst occurring on the jaws. We can’t confine to ourselves associated symptoms such as age, sex, location and shape of the lesion. Due to high recurrence rate and aggressive behaviour of OKCs all the tissues removed, should be submitted for histopathologic evaluation and a definitive diagnosis.

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