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## Compact osteoma of mandible - A case report

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#### **Conflicts of Interest:** Nil

## Abstract

Osteoma is a benign osteogenic neoplasm, consists proliferation of cancellous or compact bone. Peripheral osteomas arise from the periosteum and are quite uncommon in the jaw bones. Peripheral osteoma of mandible is considered as rare entity and very few cases have been reported in the literature. The pathogenesis of osteoma is unclear. Some investigators consider it a true neoplasm, while others believe it as a developmental anomaly, a reactive mechanism due to trauma or infection.<sup>1</sup> We are presenting a case of peripheral compact osteoma in a 25- year old man located on left lingual side of mandible.

#### Introduction

An osteoma is a benign tumor characterized by proliferation of compact or cancellous bone. It can be classified as peripheral, central or extra skeletal. The exact osteoma is poorly understood. They are thought to be developmental anomalies, true neoplasm or reactive lesions triggered by trauma, muscle traction or infection. Osteomas are mainly found in the craniofacial bones. Paranasal sinuses are most common location for peripheral osteoma. Other sites include the orbital wall, temporal bone, pterygoid processes and external ear canal. The most common sites affected in the mandible are the posterior body, condyle, angle, ascending ramus, coronoid process, anterior body and sigmoid notch. Mandible is more commonly affected as compared to maxilla. Although multiple osteomas of the jaws are a hallmark of Gardner's syndrome (familial adenomatous polyposis) non-syndromic cases are typically solitary.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Case-Report**

A 25-year old man came to the outpatient department of Himachal Institute of Dental Sciences, Paonta Sahib with chief complaint of swelling in left side of lower jaw in relation to posterior teeth since 4 years. The patient gave history of swelling which was noticed 4 years back but there was gradual increase in size since 1 year. There was no history of pain, discharge and any difficulty while speaking and swallowing food. There was no history of trauma. The patient was apparently in good health condition. On extra-oral examination, there was no facial asymmetry. On intra-oral examination, diffuse swelling was present on lingual side of left mandible in the region between 35 and 38 which was non tender and hard in consistency. The swelling was non compressible, non-fluctuant, non-pulsatile. The oral mucous membrane was intact.

#### Investigation

The patient was advised for CT-Scan of face along with 3D reconstruction for further investigation. CT scan in coronal section revealed a well circumscribed radioopaque mass on the lingual left side of mandible in the region of 35 and 38 respectively with no bony expansion. Differential diagnosis of the lesion was osteoma and osteochondroma.

#### Treatment

Surgical excision of the lesion present on the left lingual side of mandible between 35 and 38 region done under local anaesthesia. A crevicular incision was given and reflection of mucosa was done. With the help of chisel and mallet, bony mass was removed. Filing of bone was done with bone file after copious irrigation with saline. Closure was done with 4-0 black silk suture. The lesion was further send for histopathological examination.

#### Discussion

Osteomas, which are benign, slow-growing and well defined neoplasms, may originate from membranous maxillofacial bones. The tumours are often asymptomatic and are usually detected as an incidental finding on radiographic examinations. The mandible is more commonly involved than the maxilla. They usually occur in the posterior region of the mandible mainly on lingual side of the ramus or on the inferior mandibular border below the molars. Structurally, osteomas are divided into three types: those composed of compact bone (ivory), those composed of cancellous bone and those composed of a combination of compact and cancellous bone. Some believe osteomas with osteoblastoma-like features behave more aggressively. Cortical-type osteomas develop more often in men, while women have the highest incidence of the cancellous type.<sup>3</sup>

Though the exact etiology and pathogenesis is still unclear, traumatic, congenital, inflammatory and endocrine causes have been considered as possible etiologic factors. It is also suggested that the peripheral osteoma of the mandible is a traumatically induced reactive lesion and that muscle traction play a role in its initiation. In view of this possibility, the term "perosteal osseous hyperplasia" may be more appropriate for those lesions in which a positive history of trauma preceded the onset.<sup>2, 3</sup>

Imaging of Peripheral osteoma can be achieved by traditional radiography (i.e.: panoramic radiograph, Water's view) or by CT scan. CT,particularly threedimensional CT scans, is so useful in defining the exact extension of the tumour and to determine the position of the lesion in relation with adjacent anatomical structures, when removal of the lesion is considered.

The differential diagnosis includes exostoses-bony excrescences considered as hamartomas that stop growing after puberty, while osteomas may continue growth after puberty; peripheral ossifying fibroma – a reactive focal lesion; periosteal osteoblastoma; osteoid osteoma – those occur in young patients and are rare in the maxillofacial region. The appearance and homogeneity of osteoma is not difficult to characterize and diagnose.

A person who manifests with multiple intraoral or head and neck osteomas requires further radiographic work up to rule out Gardner's syndrome. This syndrome, consisting of multiple epidermoid or sebaceous cysts, supernumerary teeth, retinal pigmentation and intestinal

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polyposis, necessitates a gastrointestinal radiographic evaluation because the polyps involved are premalignant. The treatment for osteoma is surgical excision, particularly if there is a painful or active lesion growth.<sup>3,4</sup> Mandibular osteomas may be a genetic marker for the development of colorectal carcinoma. Therefore the patient with a diagnosis of mandibular osteoma, suspected to have Gardner's syndrome, should be further examined to rule out colorectal carcinoma.<sup>5</sup>

## Conclusion

Osteoma of craniofacial region is a rare, slow-growing, benign lesion. So whenever a case of bony hard swelling in craniofacial region is encountered, osteoma should be included in the differential diagnosis and treatment modality for osteoma should be an osseous contouring surgery, if the patient is symptomatic.<sup>5</sup>

## **Legend Figure**



Figure 1: showing a mass on lingual left side of mandible



Figure 2: showing mass in 3D reconstruction



Figure 3: showing preoperative condition



Figure 4: showing preoperative condition



Figure 5: Intraoperative



Figure 6: Post operative

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Figure 7: Histological presentation



### Figure 8

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