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Ameloblastic fibroma of the mandible: Report of a case and literature review

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A meloblastic fibroma is a rare, slow-growing benign neoplasm, which comprises tissue of odontogenic origin. It constitutes 2% of odontogenic tumors and can occur at any age, but tends to have a predilection to present in the first two decades of life. The posterior mandible is the most commonly affected site. Herein, we describe the case of a 6-year-old Caucasian male who presented to the Oral and Maxillofacial Department at Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool, United Kingdom, with a painless expansile mass in the left mandible which was diagnosed as a benign ameloblastic fibroma. The lesion was surgically enucleated and reconstructed with a parietal calvarial bone graft. A literature search using the PubMed, Embase and CINAHL databases was performed. The terms included in the search were ameloblastic, fibroma, ameloblastic fibroma and odontogenic tumor. We further meshed all search terms to incorporate a wide range of alternative phrases surrounding the topic. Our results produced 604 papers, from which duplicates were removed and this left 334 papers to review. Of these papers, the highest level of evidence was an abstract on a systematic review by Chrcanovic, et al. 2017. The management of AF is challenging, and there is no clear consensus regarding a conservative versus a more aggressive approach. In our opinion, a case specific approach is appropriate. The aims of treatment are to remove the tumor and decrease the chances of recurrence while preserving adjacent vital structures when safe to do so.

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