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The enlargement of the mandibular canal revealing a non-Hodgkin's lymphoma

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Introduction: Non Hodgkin's lymphoma is a malignant disease, affecting the lymphatic system and developed at the expense of a lymphoid cell line, but different from Hodgkin's disease in its natural history, microscopic appearance and its therapeutic management. Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma has the propensity to affect non-lymphoid tissues including oral tissues. Primary non-Hodgkin's lymphoma of the mandible mistreated as chronic periodontitis with diffuse enlargement of the mandibular canal associated to hypesthesia, remains rarely reported in the literature.

Case Report: A 35-year-old patient presented with a painful swelling on the left side of the mandible with a clinically chronic periodontitis associated with hypesthesia. A panoramic radiograph showed a diffuse uniform enlargement of the left mandibular canal. Histological examination revealed that the lesion was a primary intra-osseous non-Hodgkin's lymphoma of the mandible.

Discussion: Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma mainly affects patients in the fifth decade and more, with a male predilection. To our knowledge, there have been only several reports of PNHl associated with widening of the mandibular canal. With the introduction of very sophisticated diagnostic imaging techniques such as cone beam CT and improving the teaching process by adding non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma to the list of primary mandibular malignancies, clinicians should be aware of eliminating the delay in the diagnostic process. However, conventional panoramic radiographs showed remarkable features of PNHl, emphasizing the gold standard of a pre-treatment radiograph for every dental case, enabling early diagnosis of rare bone lesions and tumors. Radiographic examination is extremely important in pathologies of the jaw that encroach upon adjacent anatomical structures.

Conclusion: Although radiographic features are often a complementary exam to confirm a clinical problem, they can reveal a hidden latent malignant process, but also even be the first alarming sign leading to an early diagnosis of non Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Biography

Narjiss Akerzoul obtained her Doctorate of Dental Surgery (DDS) from Mohammed V University, Morocco. She is the General Practitioner Dentist in Oral Health Center of Guelmim City, Morocco. She is currently a 3rd year Resident Oral Surgeon in Center of Consultation of Dental Treatments of Rabat, Faculty of Dentistry of Rabat, Mohammed V University, Morocco. She also obtained University Diploma of Biostatistics and Research Methodology. She is the author of many International Publications in the field of Oral Surgery and Oral Oncology. She is the International Presenter (Oral & Poster Presenter) in different meetings of Oral Surgery and Head & Neck Oncology in Turkey and the USA. She serves as the Editorial Board Member in Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery of the *International Journal of Oral Health and Medical Research* (IJOHMR) and also *Journal of Cosmetology and Orofacial Surgery*. She is a Reviewer in OMICS GROUP Biomedical Journals.

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