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Dredging- A conservative treatment for odontogenic tumor of jaws

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Background: Dredging is a conservative surgical procedure in which repeated deflation and enucleation is done for odontogenic tumors of jaw to accelerate new bone formation by removing out the scar tissue from the bony cavity.

Case 1: A 25 years old female came with a complaint of swelling of right lower jaw since 8 years. On extraoral examination there was a painless, hard, non tender. Intraoral examination revealed large swelling extending from 43 to 46. OPG revealed multilocular radiolucency extending from 43 to 46 involving the entire alveolus leaving around 2mm bone intact at lower border. Incisional biopsy confirmed the lesion as ameloblastoma. Based on histopathological and clinical diagnosis dredging was done.

Case 2: A 12 years old male presented with a complaint of swelling of right lower jaw since 4 months. On extraoral examination painless, hard swelling was seen. Intraoral examination revealed proliferative swelling distal to 46. OPG showed unilocular radiolucency with respect to unerupted 47 extending to the ramus of mandible. Incisional biopsy confirmed the lesion as unicystic ameloblastoma for which dredging was done.

Case 3: A 25 years old female complained swelling of right lower jaw since 2 months with a history of extraction 45, 5 months back. On extraoral examination there was a painless, hard, non tender swelling. Intraoral examination showed swelling distal to 46 extending to the ramus of mandible. OPG showed multi-locular radiolucency on right posterior mandible distal to 46 extending to the ramus of mandible. Incisional biopsy confirmed the lesion as keratocystic odontogenic tumor and dredging was done.

Discussion: The resection of mandible will raise a number of complications such as, loss of jaw bone support, deformity, dysfunction and psychological distress even after good reconstruction. Eradicates the tumor and restores the normal form and function of jaw in order to overcome the disadvantages of resection-reconstruction. Repeated follow up will identify the tumor cell from enucleated scar tissue within the bony cavity which we consider as the cause of recurrence.

Conclusion: "Dredging Method" is a procedure which can eradicate the tumor as well as restore the normal contour and function of jaw with minimal post operative complication.

Biography

Pradeep Acharya has completed his Master's in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from Hebei Medical University from China in 2013. Recently, he is working as an Assistant Professor at B P Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan, Nepal. He has published 2 papers in reputed journals and has been serving in the same hospital.

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