

A Case Report- Dentigerous Cyst with Ectopic Tooth in Maxillary Sinus of a Child - A Rare Occurrence

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Abstract: An ectopically erupted tooth with infected dentigerous cyst within the maxillary sinus of a child is a rare occurrence. A twelve year old male child presented with rhinorrhoea, halitosis and swelling over the right cheek. It was diagnosed to be a large dentigerous cyst with ectopic tooth and right maxillary sinus. However it is a rare entity in children commonly occurs in mandible of middle aged persons. Early diagnosis and treatment is essential as it has greater tendency to produce some resorption of other teeth as compare to other jaw cyst. Although marsupialization is treatment of choice in children but in this case the cyst had lined the antral cavity hence enucleation had to be done through Caldwell luc approach.

Keywords: Dentigerous cyst, maxillary sinus, ectopic tooth eruption, enucleation Caldwell luc approach.

Source of Finding: None

Conflict of interest: NIL

1. Background

A dentigerous cyst is defined as a cyst which envelops the whole or a part of crown of unerupted tooth and is attached to its neck (amelocemental junction). If it gets infected inflammatory symptoms like facial pain swelling and sensory changes occur. Formation of fistula can occur when dentigerous cyst in maxillary sinus present as sinusitis with purulent discharge.¹

Generally these cyst are painless remain dormant though may cause some expansion of cortical bone.²

Many theories have been put forward as regard to origin of dentigerous cyst. However strongest contention is that the cyst originates from reduced enamel epithelium as epithelial lining is attached to the neck of tooth. Most often involved tooth is mandibular 3rd molar.³ Rarely a tooth or root may be present within the sinus cavity⁴ and may be associated with dentigerous cyst around it. An ectopically erupted tooth with dentigerous cyst in maxillary sinus present as maxillary sinusitis.

2. Case Description

A 12 years old male child had rhinitis since five months for which he took treatment from registered medical and was not relieved. In the mean time swelling appeared on the right cheek and discharge started coming out from upper tooth. He then came to ENT department, Rajindra Hospital, Patiala.

Examination revealed right maxillary swelling 3cm x 3cm with mild tenderness. The swelling had encroached upon the right alveolar process and fixed to the maxilla.

Complete haemogram and urine examination was done. TLC was 12000/cmm with raised neutrophils. X-ray PNS water's view showed air fluid level in the maxillary sinus (Figure 1).

CT scan showed dentigerous cyst with ectopic tooth in the right maxillary sinus (Figure 2 and 3).



Figure 1



Figure 2

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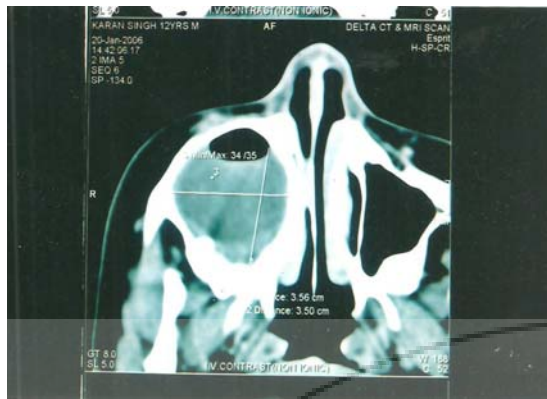


Figure 3

2.1 Treatment

Cald-Well-Luc operation was done on right side under general anaesthesia. Gush of pus came out of the antrum, which was sent for culture sensitivity. The tooth loosely adherent in the postero-superior wall of the right maxillary antrum was extracted out. Antrum was washed with betadine and packed with roller gauze impregnated with Neosporin ointment. Haemostasis was achieved and wound closed. Pack was removed after 24 hours and the patient was discharged in satisfactory condition with postoperative period uneventful.

3. Discussion

Dentigerous cyst are most frequent type of developmental odontogenic cyst derived from epithelial remnants of tooth forming organs.⁵ Many different factors are involved in the development of these cysts. There are two different views which are the congenital anomaly view and the stimulatory view by inflammation.⁶

The cyst develops by accumulation of fluid between the reduced enamel epithelium and the enamel or between the layers of reduced enamel epithelium. The tooth is displaced deep into the jaw and prevented from erupting by the cyst.

The cyst has an internal epithelial lining and an outer dense fibrous tissue covering. The lining epithelium is non keratinised stratified squamous. The cyst contains fluid or semi-fluid content with cholesterol crystals and giant cells.

Dentigerous cyst constitute about 24% of all jaw cysts.⁶ They occur at any age but the highest incidence is in third and fourth decade.⁷ They are much more common in men than women ratio being 1.84:1 and five times more likely to occur in white population than black.⁸

They most commonly involve third molar of the mandible and then in decreasing frequency the maxillary canine, mandibular premolar and maxillary third molar. Prevalence of mandibular cyst is twice more common than maxillary cyst.⁹

Rarely it may show neoplastic transformation ameloblastoma and squamous cell carcinoma. Some intra osseous muco epidermoid carcinoma develop from mucous cells in the lining of dentigerous cyst.¹⁰

CT scan is gold standard investigation in diagnosis of paranasal sinus pathology. There were two modalities of treatment either by enucleation or marsupialisation. In our case to prevent oroantral fistula formation removal of tooth was done via caldwell luc approach.¹¹

4. Conclusion

Infected dentigerous cyst with ectopic tooth in the right maxillary sinus of a child is a rare occurrence. Such cysts should be managed by excision as soon as possible. My patient presented with history of rhinorrhoea, halio tosis and swelling over the right cheek. After radiological diagnosis investigation it was diagnosed to the dentigerous cyst associated with an ectopic tooth in the right maxillary sinus. Enucleation of the cyst with removal of the tooth was carried out via Caldwell luc approach. The recovery was uneventful.

5. Future Scope

To study the incidence and prevalence and need for early diagnosis and treatment to prevent complications.

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