Appearances are a glimpse of the unseen: Odontogenic Keratocyst

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Odontogenic Keratocyst (OKC) is an enigmatic developmental cyst that needs special attention due to its aggressive behavior, autonomous growth, high recurrence rate and sometimes, silent clinical manifestation of lesions to large size. These peculiarities, combined with their frequencies, delayed diagnosis, prognosis makes the treatment often challenging.

Case discussion: This case report demonstrates the management of an extensive infected OKC with surgical endodontics. A 52 year old patient reported with swelling in the palate. After thorough examination clinically and radiographically with the help of periapical, occlusal radiographs, orthopantomogram and CT scan the character, extent and the size of the lesion was assessed and a treatment protocol was formulated. The protocol included a conventional endodontic therapy followed by cystic enucleation, apicectomy, root end filling with biodentine and open packing.

Conclusion: Successful treatment of OKC depends on accurate diagnosis, appropriate non surgical and surgical intervention and periodic follow up in order to prevent the appearance of new lesions in the area. Enucleation followed by open packing can be suggested as a choice of conservative treatment with low recurrence rate for large OKC. However, due to the clinical behaviour of OKC, a periodic follow up is mandatory.

Key words: odontogenic keratocyst, surgical endodontics, enucleation,