

> A RADICAL RADICULAR CYST

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Although relatively rare (<20%), radicular cysts are a direct sequela to chronic apical periodontitis. They consist of fibrous connective and/or granulation tissue infiltrated by inflammatory cells enveloped in an epithelial lining or a lumen lined by epithelium.

The following is an interesting case of a large radicular cyst. I first saw the 16 year-old lass in April 2010; there was a large tender swelling in the vestibule buccal to tooth 41 and a history of trauma. Tooth No. 41 had a necrotic pulp with symptomatic apical periodontitis. A yellowish-orangey fluid was observed upon gaining patency and initially during the drainage of the buccal swelling.

One week later the patient returned with mental fascial space involvement. The buccal vestibule was incised a second time, a drain sutured in place, and ten days of Amoxicillin prescribed. The condition stabilised and the drain was removed several weeks later. The canal was re-medicated with Diapex a few times prior to the completion of treatment five months later; there was evidence of healing and significant patient fatigue.

Six months post-op there was evidence of a revival of the pathological activity; surgery was recommended. The large soft tissue lesion (3 x 2 x 1.5 cm) was biopsied, the apical portion of the root resected, and MTA sealed the retro-preparation. The apices of all mandibular anterior teeth were visible during surgery. A resorbable membrane was placed to promote healing. Bone grafting was not performed due to my suspicion of incomplete excavation of the convoluted lesion. The pathology report indicated the lesion was a radicular cyst.

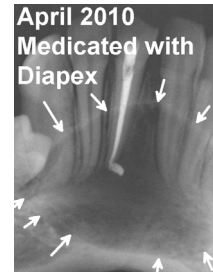
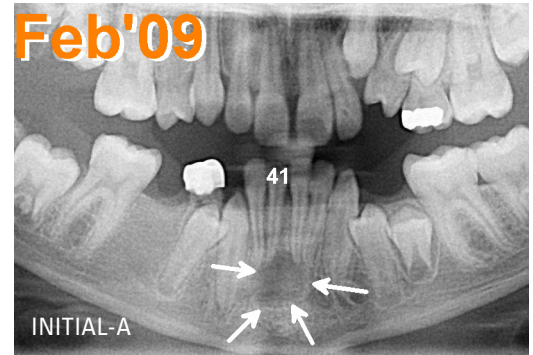
Twelve months post-surgery there is evidence of healing both clinically and radiographically. All other mandibular anterior teeth continue to respond normally to pulp vitality tests.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this or previous newsletters. Please consider the Richmond Endodontic Centre when saving the teeth of your patients.

Regards,



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If you have any questions about this or other newsletters please contact our office.