

Gingival cyst of the adult: differential diagnosis with fistulas, abscesses, mucocèles and neoplasias

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ABSTRACT

Gingival cyst of the adult is not always noticed due to its limited growth and absence of symptomatology. In nearly all cases, it is located on the buccal surface. Differential diagnosis includes mucocèles, gingival abscesses, fistulas, and some benign neoplasms. Adenomas, neuromas and neoplasms or peripheral odontogenic cysts can be located in the gingival tissue, and when they are small and still detectable, they can simulate the gingival cyst of the adult. The latter is a round, dome-shaped, well-delimited and firm-to-palpation tumefaction located at gingival tissues, especially in the attached gingiva. It is usually located in mandibular premolar and canine region or their immediately neighboring areas. In a minority of cases, it may occur in the same region of the maxilla. Most patients are

over 40 years old, regardless of gender, but any age may be affected. It is eventually bilateral. The gingival cyst of the adult should be included in differential diagnosis of cases in which the nodulation or tumefaction located in the attached gingiva is not related to any tooth with pulpal necrosis, and after the possibility of gingival or periodontal abscess has been discarded by the presence of healthy periodontal tissues. The protocol regarding gingival cyst of the adult should be its complete surgical removal and subsequent microscopic analysis. Prognosis tends to be satisfactory and there are no cases of aggressive or malignant transformation.

Keywords: Gingival cyst of the adult. Odontogenic cysts. Periodontal disease.

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