



Giant haemangioma on base of tongue: A rare presentation



Fig. 1. Solitary, well-defined, firm-to-cystic globular swelling arising from base of the tongue.

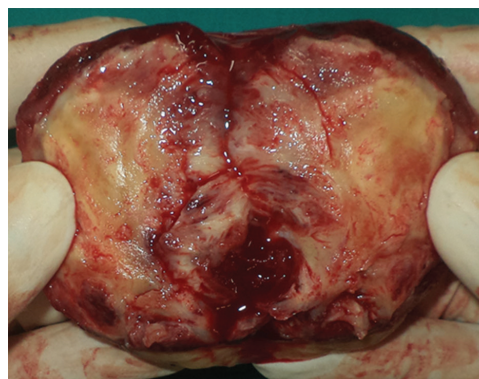


Fig. 2. Cut-surface showing greyish-white glistening areas along with areas of haemorrhage and necrosis.

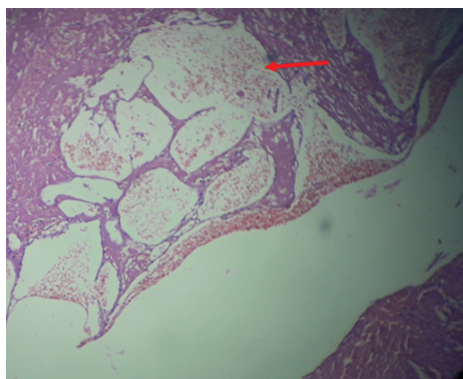


Fig. 3. Section from the tongue mass revealing sub-capsular area of large cavernous spaces containing altered blood, suggestive of cavernous haemangioma of the tongue (H and E, $\times 10$).



Fig. 4. At two years of follow up.

A 24 yr old male[†] presented to the department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Government Medical College and Sassoon General Hospital, Pune, India, in October 2016, with a solitary, progressive swelling over the

tongue for the last 4–5 yr with difficulty in speech. Intraoral examination revealed a large solitary well-defined, firm-to-cystic globular swelling measuring approximately $7 \times 7 \times 5$ cm at the base of the tongue (Fig. 1). Magnetic resonance imaging was

[†]Patient's consent obtained to publish clinical information and images.

inconclusive. The encapsulated mass was removed surgically *via* intraoral access only, thus avoiding morbid mandibulotomy. Histopathologically, it turned out to be cavernous haemangioma (Figs 2 and 3). The patient was followed up over a period of two years with no recurrence and morbidity (Fig. 4). Haemangiomas are benign tumours of infancy and childhood. Base of the tongue is a rare site requiring special consideration in terms of functional problem. These are rarely grown to this large size and unencapsulated.

Conflicts of Interest: None.

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