

# Odontoma Removal and Oral Rehabilitation via Insertions of Albumin and Gentamycin Coated Bone Allograft and Dental Implants - A Case Report

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## ABSTRACT

Odontomas are the most frequently diagnosed odontogenic tumors. Odontomas usually are asymptomatic or may be associated with tooth impaction or aplasia because of an obstructive impact on tooth eruption. Odontoma requires surgical removal and following surgery, the adjacent impacted tooth may spontaneously erupt; otherwise, a surgical-orthodontic treatment is necessary. When an odontoma is associated with a tooth aplasia, an orthodontic space-closure may be the appropriate treatment option. When the space deriving from a missing tooth is too wide, it can be treated by prosthetic method or dental implant. When dental implantation is the planned option the strengthening and augmentation of bony bed may be necessary. Preventive approach via alveolar preservation can be useful at the time of odontoma removal to facilitate further surgical treatment and implantation. The presented case reports on the removal of an odontoma coupled with alveolar preservation, bone grafting and dental implantation.

**Keywords:** Albumin; Allograft; Alveolar Preservation; Dental Implant; Gentamycin; Odontoma

## Introduction

Odontoma is the most common odontogenic tumor showing about 75% occurrence rate followed by lower incidences of ameloblastoma and odontogenic myxoma [1]. Odontomas are considered to be hamartomas joining to the developmental anomalies of teeth [2]. Local traumatism, infection and inherited genetic factors may be considered as potential etiological factors. Genetic disorders in Gardner and Herman syndrome may be associated with the development of multiplex odontomas [3,4]. Clinically two types of odontomas may be differentiated according to their location. Central odontoma is located intraosseously, while the extremely rare peripheral odontoma can be found in the soft tissues. Both lesions are more prevalent in the anterior region of maxilla and mandible, with nearly a same incidence rate in both jaws [5-7]. Gender predilection of the incidence of odontoma could not be revealed [1,5]. Histologically compound and complex odontomas may be distinguished; their incidence rate is 2:1 [5]. Compound odontoma is composed of several tooth-like small denticles. Complex odontoma exhibits less matured structure

with an amorphous, partly mineralized mixture of enamel, dentin, cement and pulp tissue [8]. Odontomas are usually asymptomatic and they can be accidentally diagnosed in case of dental radiological examination [9]. It may usually be diagnosed in young patients at age 20-30. Several dentitional anomalies can refer to the presence of an odontoma; persisting deciduous tooth, delayed tooth eruption and missing or impacted permanent tooth. In certain cases, a growing odontoma may break through the gingival mucosa and the appearance of a hard tissue tumor in the fenestration mimics a tooth eruption [6,10]. In the presented case, an unusual inflammatory process associated with an anomalous tooth eruption suggested the presence of jaw tumor.

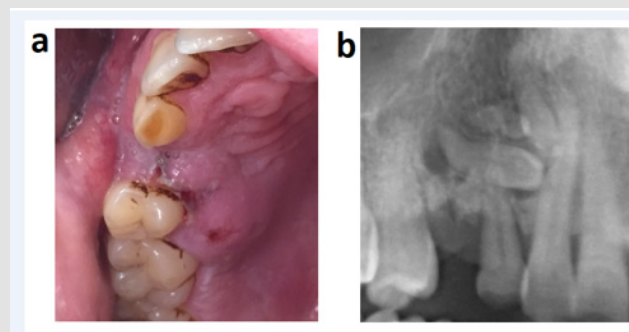
The treatment of odontoma requires interdisciplinary approach. Odontoma requires surgical removal via local excision. The clinical diagnosis may be verified by histological examination. Unlike other tumors, odontoma shows no inclination to recurrence. When the odontoma involves the periapical region of adjacent teeth causing devitalization or root resorption, root canal treatment, sometimes

combined with apertomy may be necessary [11]. Early diagnosis is important approximately at the age of 10 years when orthodontic treatment is needed. The odontoma forms a physical obstacle which hinders the eruption of teeth. When an odontoma causes tooth impaction, the impacted tooth can spontaneously erupt after the removal of physical obstruction, otherwise surgical-orthodontic treatment is necessary [12-14]. When a permanent tooth is missing because of developmental failure, orthodontically space closure can be performed especially in childhood [15,16]. After the age of 18, when the jaw development has finished, the missing tooth can be replaced by a prosthetic restorative treatment or a dental implant [17]. The choice depends on the general physical status of the patient and on the quality and quantity of the surrounding jawbone. Before the insertion of a dental implant the available bone amount has to be estimated. When the odontoma is small, an immediate implantation may be possible after its removal [18]. Usually, the removal of the odontoma results in a large bone defect, thus bone augmentation might be necessary before the insertion of implant [19,20]. Preservation of alveolar bone is a preventive approach during the odontoma removal facilitating further oral rehabilitation.

## Results - Case Report

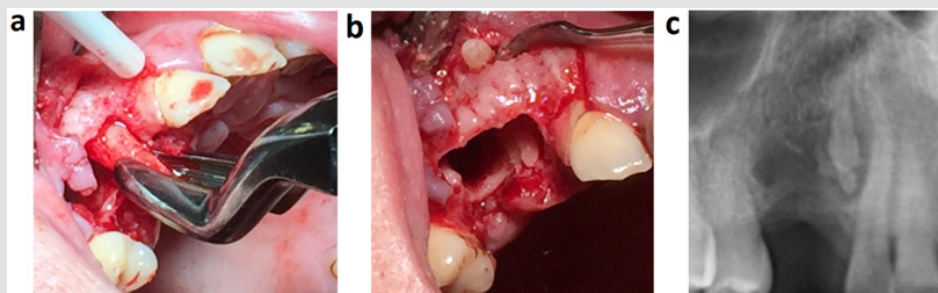
A 31-year-old male patient exhibited a painful palatal swelling when he arrived for dental examination (Figure 1a). Stomato-

oncological screening was carried out, no premalignant or malignant lesions were found [21]. His upper right canine was missing, and a deciduous lateral incisor replaced the permanent one. The orthopantomogram showed an approximately 2cm sized rounded formation of small radio opaque structures including two smaller rudimentary teeth, being probably the impacted canine and lateral incisor teeth (Figure 1b). The clinical diagnosis was compound odontoma. The lesion erupted to the oral cavity and the dental follicle was infected. The palatal abscess was drained for emptying a purulent exudate through the palatal incision. Since both the permanent canine and lateral incisor were impacted, the treatment plan was to enucleate the whole tumor together with the unerupted teeth and then to replace the missing teeth with dental implants and crowns. During the first surgical intervention the deciduous lateral incisor was removed. An incision was performed on the alveolar ridge completed with a buccal vertical release incision creating an L shaped mucoperiosteal flap. The odontoma was partially removed in several pieces using forceps and elevator (Figure 2a&2b). The cranial part of the odontoma was preserved as its removal would require sacrificing a great amount of maxillary bone. The partial preservation of odontoma helped to spare an appropriate bone mass, which was necessary for the further prosthetic rehabilitation (Figure 2c). The flap was primarily fixed via sutures. The histological examination confirmed the clinical diagnosis of complex odontoma.



**Figure 1:** Preoperative images;

- Palatal swelling, persistent deciduous lateral incisor, missing canine.
- Radiographic image of odontoma.



**Figure 2:** First surgical exposure of odontoma

- Partial odontoma delivery.
- Remained bone defect.
- Radiographic image after the first surgery.

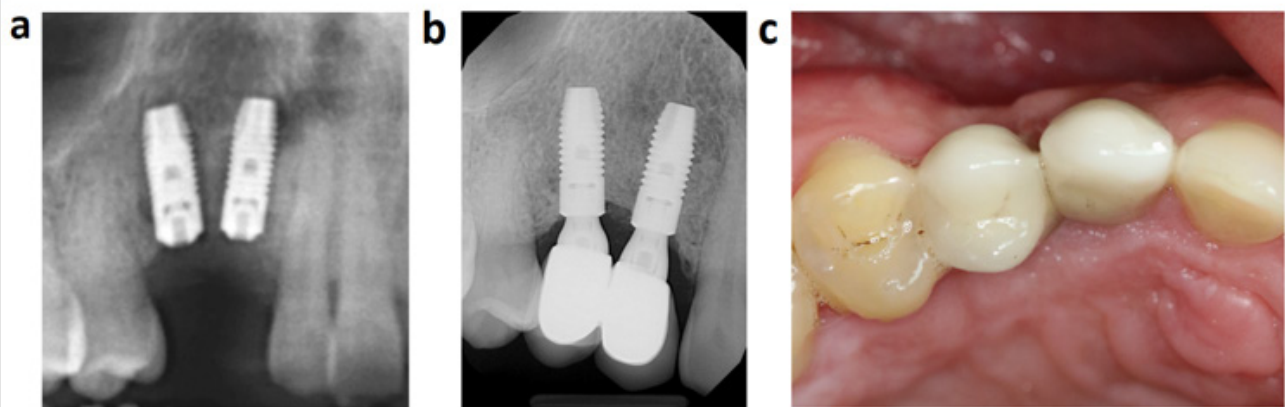
After 3 months the cranial part of the odontoma was placed near to the occlusal plate and it could be easily removed via a second operation. During the exposure of the odontoma remnant a buccal bone ridge was preserved to minimize the bone loss (Figure 3a). Thorough excochleation was performed and the complete removal of tumor was confirmed by radiological examination. The bone defect was filled with bone allograft particles coated with albumin and gentamycin (Figure 3b). Antibiotics were prescribed after both surgeries; amoxicillin/clavulanic acid 875/125 mg 2 times a day for one week. Adverse reactions were not experienced during the healing period. After 6 months the radiographic image showed

complete graft integration and bone remodeling (Figure 3c). The next step of treatment was the implant placement. An L-shaped flap was prepared similarly like at the time of odontoma removal. The clinical findings confirmed a complete bone healing; the examined area was appropriate for implant placement without further bone augmentation. Two Astra 4,0 \* 11 mm dental implants were placed which had 25 Ncm primer stability (Figure 4a). After a 3-month healing, the implants were exposed and two porcelain—fused-to-metal crowns were fixed with cement in one piece. After a three-year follow up the crown-mucosa junction was intact and less than 1mm bone loss could be observed (Figure 4b&4c).



**Figure 3:** Second surgical exposure of odontoma;

- Bone defect with the remaining buccal bone ridge after the complete removal of odontoma.
- Bone augmentation with albumin and gentamycin coated allograft.
- Radiographic image of the augmented bone 6 months postoperatively.



**Figure 4:** Tooth restoration

- Radiographic image after the implant placement.
- Radiographic image at 3-year control.
- Oral status at 3-year control.

## Discussion

The early diagnosis is crucial in cases with odontoma. The early treatment is essential as odontomas inhibit normal tooth eruption. The removal of tumors and orthodontic treatment improves the dental status of patients. The removal of odontoma has several

risk factors like nerve damage and postoperative paresthesia, the injury of nearby teeth, wound dehiscence, and infection [22]. The removal of odontoma results in a bigger bone defect than it is usual after a surgical tooth extraction. Odontoma removal is a risk of bone fracture especially when the odontoma is positioned in the angular



region of mandible [23]. When odontoma is associated with tooth aplasia the narrow place can hinder tooth replacement when it was planned with dental implants. The surgical treatment of odontoma should be thoroughly planned and properly performed as both prosthetic and orthodontic aspects should be considered [24]. The presented case shows the importance of bone preservation in order to facilitate further oral rehabilitation and tooth replacement. Bone augmentation is a well-known technique in oral surgery and implantology. Several methods and materials are available to enhance bone mass for implant placement [25]. Bone augmentation and implant insertion is performed later, months or years after tooth removal; however, alveolar preservation may prevent the need of bone replacement [26]. Bone grafting after cystectomy is also a preventive approach so as to facilitate the possibility of oral rehabilitation [27]. This presented case demonstrates that bone grafting can also be an option associated with surgical removal of odontoma.

A wide range of bone grafting materials may be available. The allograft coated by human albumin is highly valuable when it is used for alveolar preservation and bone augmentation, resulting in improved graft integration and remodeling [28-30]. The allograft has the same structure as the host area, while the osteoinductive capacity of albumin enhances bone regeneration. In vitro and in vivo experiments justified that albumin shows adhesion and proliferation increasing effects on bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells, thus albumin coated allograft resulted in faster and stronger bone formation than uncoated allografts [31,32]. In addition, the albumin activates a higher number of immunomodulatory cytokines and growth factors, and the gentamycin coating of graft ensure antibiotic release for several weeks [33, 34]. Consequently, albumin and gentamycin coated allograft can be an excellent option when bone grafting is necessary in a complicated case of bone loss.

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