

Conservative Treatment of Unicystic Ameloblastoma of the Mandible

Unicystic ameloblastoma is a rare, benign, locally invasive odontogenic neoplasm of young age that show clinical, radiographic, or gross features of an odontogenic cyst, but histologically shows typical ameloblastomatous epithelium lining part of the cyst cavity, with or without luminal and/or mural tumor growth.

Unicystic ameloblastoma is a less encountered variant of the ameloblastoma and believed to be less aggressive. It appears more frequently in the second or third decade with no sexual or racial predilection. It is almost exclusively encountered asymptotically in the posterior mandible.

Generally, treatment evaluation of ameloblastomas is a complex issue, as ideally it should not be so destructive due to the benign nature of this lesion, but should be extensive enough to avoid recurrences.

Multicystic ameloblastoma requires more radical treatment, such as segmental resection, hemi-sectioning and total sectioning. While, unicystic ameloblastoma may be treated conservatively with decompression, enucleation and peripheral ostectomy as well as periodic long-term follow up. A more aggressive surgical approach may be considered when the condition recurs more than twice.

This presentation will show the successful treatment of unicystic ameloblastoma of the mandible using enucleation and peripheral ostectomy.

