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## A MASSIVE EPULIS IN A BULL (With 5 Figures)

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ورم باللثة في عجل

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لقد تم ازالة ورم كبير باللثة في عجل بقري بعد الفحص الاكلينيكي ولاشعاعي وكان الورم عبارة عن نسيج ليفي بيضاوي الشكل طوله حوالي 10 سنتيمترات وسمكه حوالي 6 سنتيمترات . وقد وجد الورم ملاصقا للثة عند الضرس الثاني في الفك الأسفل الأيسر . هذا ووجد أن الورم قد أزاح الضرس حتى أنه أزيل عند ازالة الورم . وجددير بالذكر أن مثل هذا الورم الذي أدى إلى انتفاخ الخد يجب تفرقة بعناية من كثير من الاصابات المشابهة .

A three-years-old bull was presented to the clinic with a massive prominent swelling at the left cheek just caudal to the left mouth commissure (Fig. 1). The clinical and radiological examination showed the presence of a stalked epulis attaching the alveolar edge of the second mandibular premolar tooth, resulting in displacement of the later (Fig. 2).

Surgical excision of the swelling was performed under effect of Rompun analgesia (0.15 mg/Kg Bwt., I/M). Haemorrhage was controlled by electrocoagulation. The excised swelling was ovoid in shape; 10 cm in length and 6 cm in thickness (Fig. 3). It was firm and dense in consistency. It displaced and loosened the second mandibular premolar tooth to the degree that it was removed easily during the excision of the swelling.

Cross section revealed that the swelling is composed of white fibrous connective tissue with an osseous part near the line of attachment to the periosteum (Fig. 4 & 5).

### COMMENT:

Under the common title of epulis are grouped all tumours originating in the gum or alveolus (O'CONNOR, 1950). The bone in the area of attachment of the tumour

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may represent metaplasia of white fibrous connective tissue or hyperplasia of the bone of the mandible. It is believed that many of these tumours are not true fibromas but rather are the reaction of tissue to trauma and alveolar periostitis (RUNNELLS *et al.*, 1965).

In this context, it should be emphasized that the case has to be differentiated from the affections which may cause swelling of the lateral aspect of the head, such as actinomycotic tumours, bony exostosis, ectasia of the parotid duct, abscesses, and accumulation of food as a result of sharp teeth.

**REFERENCES**

- O'Connor, J.J. (1950): *Dolar's Veterinary Surgery*, fourth ed., Bailliere Tindall and Cox, London, p. 603.
- Runnells, R.A.; Molux, W.S. and Monlux, A.W. (1965): *Pathology*, Seventh ed., The Iowa State University Press, Ames, Iowa, p. 336.

**LEGENDS:**

- Fig. 1:** A bull with a massive swelling at the cheek, caudal to the left mouth commissure.
- Fig. 2:** The swelling is at the level of the second mandibular premolar tooth.
- Fig. 3:** The excised epulis and the second mandibular premolar tooth.
- Fig. 4:** Cross section of the excised epulis with an osseous part at the center of the line of attachment to the periosteum.
- Fig. 5:** X-ray picture of the cross section, where the osseous part is only at the root of the epulis.





