

Clinical Image

Tuberculous Lymphadenitis

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Clinical Image

A 22 year old female patient presented with a swelling in the left submandibular region (Figure 1 and 2). The swelling had been growing insidiously for one year and was associated with pain since two weeks which was mild, continuous and radiating. Extraoral examination revealed a diffuse enlargement with imprecise borders measuring around 4x5cms in size in the left submandibular region with normal overlying skin. On palpation the submandibular lymph node was enlarged, firm in consistency, tender and mobile. No abnormalities were detected intraorally. Provisional diagnosis of submandibular lymphadenopathy was given. Tuberculous lymphadenitis was considered in the differential diagnosis. On investigations, Ultrasonography revealed multiple enlarged lymph nodes with areas of necrosis involving the submandibular region. FNAC revealed granulomatous lymphadenitis. Excision of the lymph nodes was done under general anesthesia and histopathological examination of the specimen confirmed the diagnosis of tuberculous lymphadenitis. Patient was referred to a physician who prescribed a WHO endorsed anti-tubercular therapy for 6 months. Periodic follow up showed complete resolution of the lesion.



Figure 1: Diffuse swelling in the left submandibular region.

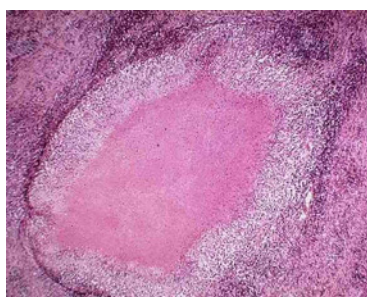


Figure 2: Numerous epithelioid cells and multiple Langhans giant cells are seen (H and E stain).