

Radiopacities of the jaws – made clear?

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Learning Objectives

1. To describe the main anatomical radiopaque landmarks in the mandible and maxilla
2. To outline the main conditions that may present as a radiopacity of the jaws
3. To describe the main conditions that may present as a soft tissue radiopacity around the jaws
4. To summarise the different types of radiopaque foreign bodies that may be seen on dental radiographs

Teaser

What is the diagnosis?



Test Your Knowledge

1. Cementoblastomas are typically attached to the apices of which teeth?
 - a. Lower first molars/lower premolars
 - b. Lower incisors
 - c. Upper incisors
 - d. Upper canines/premolars
 - e. Upper and lower third molars
2. Periapical cemento-osseous dysplasia is typically located around the apices of which teeth?
 - a. Lower molars
 - b. Lower premolars
 - c. Lower incisors
 - d. Upper incisors
 - e. Upper premolars
3. Which of the following conditions can present radiographically with a ground glass appearance of the affected jaw?
 - a. Cemento-ossifying fibroma
 - b. Fibrous dysplasia

- c. Florid cemento-osseous dysplasia
 - d. Osteopetrosis
 - e. Focal cemento-osseous dysplasia
4. If a radiopacity is surrounded by a thin radiolucent line it suggests
- a. The condition is malignant
 - b. It is a superimposed soft tissue radiopacity
 - c. It is artefactual
 - d. The condition is dental in origin
 - e. It is a non-odontogenic tumour
5. Which of the following soft tissue radiopacities typically presents as a 'coral like mass'?
- a. Phlebolith
 - b. Submandibular calculus
 - c. Parotid calculus
 - d. Tonsillolith
 - e. Calcified lymph node