



Removal of Foreign Body in the Maxillary Sinus: Case Report

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Date of Submission: 01-03-2023

Date of Acceptance: 08-03-2023

ABSTRACT

The jaw is often involved in maxillofacial trauma, such as facial trauma by penetrating instruments. Its complexity is determined by the size of the object and, mainly, by the anatomical structures affected. The present work aims to report an unusual case of umbrella cable removal, located in the right maxillary sinus region. According to the clinical examination and with the diagnostic aid of facial computed tomography, it was possible to observe the fracture of the anterior wall of the right maxillary sinus, without compromising other bone structures. Thus, taking into account the proximity to noble structures and the maintenance of the preservation of the function of the maxillary sinus, an adequate clinical and surgical management of the patient was necessary. For this, an early approach, qualified professionals, available and adequate equipment in the operating room, attention to possible complications and all associated anatomical structures was essential.

Keywords: Maxillary Sinus; Trauma; Penetrating Injuries.

I. INTRODUCTION

The maxilla is often involved in maxillofacial trauma, such as facial trauma caused by penetrating instruments. Its complexity is determined by the size of the object, kinetic energy involved, degree of contamination, time of trauma and, mainly, by the anatomical structures affected.¹

They can be caused by several different mechanisms such as firearm projectiles, wooden fragments, melee gun injuries, among others.² Usually due to physical aggression, traffic accidents, sports accidents or work accidents.³

In traumas of the middle third of the face, the maxillary sinus is a region often affected.⁴ Because it performs important functions in the physiology of the respiratory system and in the protection of noble structures, along with the other paranasal sinuses, the proper management of the victim with this type of injury is essential.

Therefore, the maxillary sinuses can serve to improve the respiratory function of the nose, are decisively involved in the production of nitrogen monoxide (NO) and, therefore, in supporting the immune defense of the nasal cavity. As well as the protection of the orbit and the brain in case of skull fractures, as well as the reduction of the weight of the skull.⁵

In addition to the complete clinical-anamnesis examination, it is essential to use complementary exams for its correct diagnosis and definition of the most appropriate treatment plan. Thus, imaging tests are extremely important.⁶

The incidence of Waters and face profile allow a good visualization of the affected structures. However, face computed tomography (CT), because it is a three-dimensional and sharper examination, stands out against two-dimensional techniques and is the complementary examination of choice in these cases. CT can evaluate the exact shape, size and location of a foreign body, as well as capture thin transverse cuts and multiple visualizations. In addition, it is considered the most beneficial imaging study due to its ability to visualize bone and soft tissue.⁶

This report describes an unusual case of removal of an umbrella cable housed in the right jaw of a patient, as well as all the conduct adopted by the surgeon team. Therefore,



it aim to present the clinical and imaginary aspects of the case in question, a brief anatomical review of the maxillary sinus and the structures associated with it, any complications involved in this type of trauma and the correct management of the victim in this situation.

II. CASE REPORT

Male patient, 58 years old, melanoderma, attended the emergency of the General Hospital of the State (HGE) in Salvador-Bahia, studying with facial trauma. He reports having suffered a fall from his own height followed by penetration of the umbrella cord, which he carried with him, on his face, in a region of the right maxillary sinus.

During the first evaluation with the hospital's Bucomaxillofacial Surgery and Traumatology team, it was lucid and oriented in time and space, Glasgow coma scale equal to 15, without active bleeding, with pain complaints on the face and referring to hypoesthesia in the anterior middle third of the right face. On physical examination, preserved upper and lower thirds of the face were observed, with the presence of the foreign body (chuve cable) housed in the middle third of the face on the right side.

On the tomographic examination, a hyperdense image was observed, compatible with foreign body in the right maxillary sinus, with rupture of the anterior wall of the maxillary sinus, without impairment of other areas. Thus, anti-tetanus prophylaxis was immediately instituted and, before the surgical procedure, 02 grams of Cefazolin were administered intravenously. Patient was then taken to the operating room and under general anesthesia was performed the removal of the foreign body and fractured bone fragments, cauterization of the injured vessels, debridement, cleaning of the wound with 0.9% saline and suture by planes with vicryl 4-0 and nylon 5-0.

Subsequently, the patient continued under the care of the team in the hospital, without complications, under the use of antibiotic (cephalotin), anti-inflammatory (dexamethasone) and analgesic (dipirone), in addition to performing the postoperative control radiography.

After two days, the patient was discharged from the hospital and followed in outpatient follow-up, presenting good healing of the surgical site, without pain complaints and no signs of infection, but without remission of hypoesthesia in the anterior

middle third of the face to the right. Home antibiotic therapy was performed with cephalexin. The anti-inflammatory and analgesic of choice were dexamethasone and dipyrone, respectively.

III. DISCUSSION

Of the paranasal sinuses, the maxillary sinus is considered the largest and most commonly affected by injuries. It corresponds to a pneumatic space, that is, coated with mucosa and filled with air, which communicates with the nasal cavity, of large volume, located inside the maxilla, bilaterally. This mucosa consists of a ciliated columnar pseudostratified epithelium, mucosecretor, containing calciform cells.⁷

This region is related to noble structures of significant clinical relevance. Thus, in these types of trauma, ophthalmic, neurological, hemorrhagic and respiratory injuries can occur, which can produce substantial morbidity and mortality.^{3,8} Understanding all the anatomy of the region in question is of fundamental importance for the professional to have the proper management of patients who are in this situation.⁹

The maxillary sinus is delimited by six walls: anterior, posterior, superior, inferior, lateral and medial. Thus, it is closely related to the orbit floor and lateral nasal wall. The vascular supply is provided by the posterior and infra-orbitary upper alveolar arteries and veins, supplemented by the arteries and major palatine and sphenopalatine veins. In addition, it is innervated by the maxillary division of the trigeminal nerve.¹⁰ Therefore, it is possible to understand how the penetrating traumas in this region can have a clinically impact.

Given the above, primary attention to these patients should include the prevention of fatal complications, including airway maintenance, bleeding control and shock management. To identify the anatomical structures involved and the extent of the lesion, a thoughtful clinical examination and a face CT is indicated, as a first-choice complementary examination for diagnostic aid.¹¹ Thus, in the present case, the face CT allowed to evaluate the degree of extension of the lesion, with involvement only of the anterior wall of the maxillary sinus in question. However, it was possible to observe its proximity to deeper structures and its intimate relationship with noble structures, which clinically represented greater caution on the part of the maxillofacial surgery team.

Soon, after the conclusion of the diagnostic suspicion, all the clinical and surgical planning of the case was carried out. Thus, the need



for antitetanus prophylaxis was evaluated, which was performed, since the patient had received his last dose more than ten years ago. In addition, the removal of the foreign body was carried out under general anesthesia, through its course of penetration, in order to avoid further damage. In addition, the prescription of pre- and postoperative antibiotics was indicated in order to avoid a possible infection.

During the surgical procedure, as already observed in the CT of the face, it was noted that the lesion was limited to the fracture of the anterior wall of the right maxillary sinus. In this way, it did not reach large vessels and did not have respiratory or ophthalmological repercussion. On the other hand, due to the proximity to these structures, special care was needed during the removal of the object. In addition, it reached branches of the infraorbital nerve, which it clinically represented in a hypoesthesia of the middle anterior region of the face, since it is responsible for the sensitive innervation of this region.

In this way, it is also important to understand the risks that involve the immediate non-treatment of this type of injury. The longer this time, the worse the prognosis of this patient will be. The present hemisinus can act as a culture medium for possible pathogens, increasing the risk of developing infectious processes.⁶

Therefore, patients may have mild fever, facial pain, headache, nasal obstruction and chronic nasal secretion. Thus, the foreign body should be removed to avoid tissue reactions and prevent sinusitis.⁶In addition, avoid the spread of infectious processes to the central nervous system, such as meningitis or brain abscesses. Therefore, lesions with the presence of a foreign body are classified as infected wounds and the use of the antibiotic is recommended.¹

In addition, because it is a potentially contaminated lesion, after receiving hospital discharge, it is interesting to do the outpatient follow-up of this patient until complete healing and remission of postoperative signs and symptoms.²Thus, the preservation of the patient was carried out, which evolved with significant improvement in the clinical condition. For this, general and local care was maintained, in addition to the medicines necessary for better healing. Thus, because it will be a trauma involving skin tissue, the antibiotic of choice was Cefalexin, accompanied by the anti-inflammatory dexamethasone for having a very effective action with a reduction of the formation of edema and dipyrene as an analgesic for possible pain complaints.

IV. CONCLUSION

The maxillary sinus is a structure of intimate relationship with noble structures and among the other paranasal sinuses it is the most affected in facial trauma, including injuries by penetrating instruments. Because of this, it is necessary, in addition to an efficient clinical-anamnesis examination, an imaging examination that makes it possible to evaluate the dimensions of these lesions. Thus, face computed tomography is the complementary examination of choice for diagnostic aid. In addition, for an efficient treatment it is essential a nearly approach, qualified professionals, available and adequate equipment in the surgical center, attention to possible complications and all associated anatomical structures, offering the patient a better prognosis, as in the present case.

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Figure 1: Patient with an umbrella in the right maxillary sinus in both figures A and B.

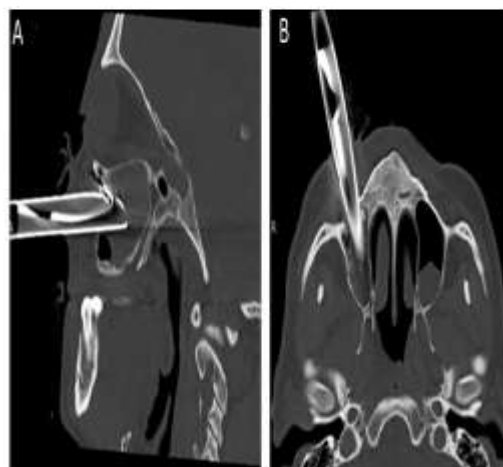


Figure 2: Sagittal (A) and axial (B) cut of the Computed Tomography of the face with hyperdense structure compatible with foreign body in the right maxillary sinus, with rupture of the anterior wall of the maxillary sinus.



Figure 3: Preoperative 3D reconstruction.



Figure 4: Injury observed in the transoperative period, generated by the foreign body after its removal in figure A, while in figure B the removed umbrella handle is observed.



Figure 5: Immediate postoperative image with sutures in position.



Figure 6: Postoperative control radiography.