



## A Case of Unusual Deep Cyst of First Pharyngeal Arch: Clinical Image

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### Clinical Image

We describe the case image of a 15-year-old girl with history of bulging in the left periauricular region for 11 years. Her lesion had already been previously resected 2 times. The patient only complained of intermittent hyperemia associated with local pain radiating to the ipsilateral zygomatic arch and frontal region. Ultrasound examination showed a cystic image with thickened walls, containing clumps inside, without flow on Doppler, measuring approximately 1.92 cm × 1.53 cm × 2.51 cm, superficial to the parotid gland. She underwent the third surgical approach, when the cyst with serous content was seen inside, attached anteriorly to the parotid, posteriorly to the sternocleidomastoid, and superiorly to the cartilaginous portion of the external auditory meatus. Such formation is compatible with 1<sup>st</sup> arch branchial cyst. The cyst was removed in its entirety. The anatomopathological exam was compatible with a branchial cyst.

In Figure 1 shows the excision of a 1<sup>st</sup> branchial arch cyst in the left parotid region. Incision extends inferiorly from the left pre-auricular region to the mandible angle, and posteriorly to the mastoid region. The cotton thread pulls the lobe of the left ear upwards; tweezers pull the capsule of the branchial cyst - already ruptured during the procedure. The tip of the insulin syringe points towards the interior of the branchial cyst, which is shown to be adhered superiorly to the cartilaginous portion of the external auditory meatus. Anterior to the cyst, subcutaneous tissue of the parotid is seen. Posteriorly to the cyst, part of the sternocleidomastoid muscle is noted.

In Figure 2, there is a tweezers showing the product of cyst excision of the first branchial arch. Tweezers shows inside cyst capsule. The tip of the tweezers locates the portion of the capsule that was adhered to the cartilaginous part of the external auditory meatus.

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Received Date: 28 Sep 2021

Accepted Date: 08 Nov 2021

Published Date: 11 Nov 2021

#### Citation:

Saito F, Amadeu NT, de Almeida Toledo Pires I, Moreira VA, Mocelin A, Reksidler MC, et al. A Case of Unusual Deep Cyst of First Pharyngeal Arch: *Clinical Image. Clin Surg.* 2021; 6: 3355.

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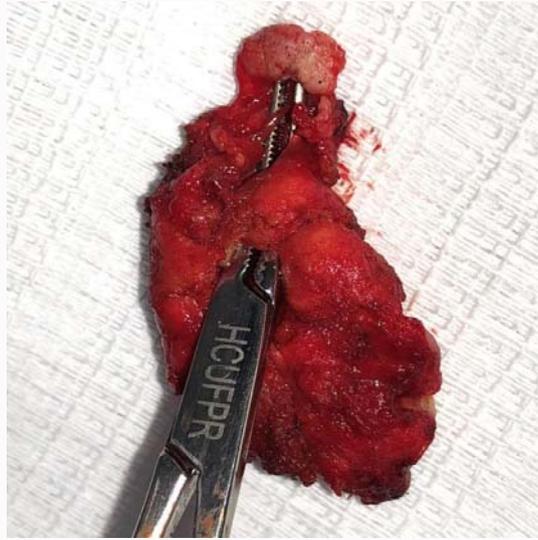
### Contribution

Fernanda Saito, Nicole Tássia Amadeu, Ícaro de Almeida Toledo Pires, Victor Augusto Moreira, Aurenzo Mocelin, attended to the patient and acted as assistants in the surgery.

Marja Cristiane Reksidler and Rogério Hamerschmidt were the chief surgeons and supervised all procedures. All authors contributed with the case review and image description.



**Figure 1:** Surgical field at the time of cyst removal.



**Figure 2:** Exeresis product of the first pharyngeal arch cyst.