

An Unusual Case of Submandibular Sialolithiasis in a 4-year-old Patient: A Case Report

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Introduction: Sialolithiasis is the most common disease of the salivary glands and it is characterized by the development of calcified structures within the duct. This condition is rare in childhood and can lead to inflammation and bacterial infection. The treatment goes from direct massage of the duct to complete removal of the gland.

Case report: This report describes an unusual case of submandibular sialolith in a 4-year-old girl. The patient was suffering from eating-related pain and swelling in the floor of his mouth. The clinical diagnosis identified a sialolith in the submandibular gland duct. Since the salivary stone was palpable and localized upfront in the duct's gland, a minimally invasive procedure was planned. An excisional biopsy was performed, and a stone was sent to anatomopathological diagnosis.

Discussion: Only 3-5% of all sialolith cases occur in children; and there is no evidence yet proving the true origin of this type of calcium deposit. Sialoliths are clinically round, usually unilateral, and most commonly located close to the lingual frenum. Management of sialolithiasis should begin with conservative measures including massage and stimulation of the gland. Conservative surgery involves a small excision that exposes the salivary stone trapped in the duct, removing it in a totally excisional manner. The minimally invasive procedures have excellent success rates with minimal morbidity.

Conclusion: Although rare in children, sialolithiasis has a variety of symptoms and can be challenging to the pediatric clinicians. Understanding the diagnostic process and the different modalities of treatment will lead to extremely favorable prognosis.