

Recurrent Lobular Capillary Haemangioma of Gingiva: Case Report from a Tertiary Hospital

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Pyogenic granuloma (lobular capillary haemangioma) is a well-known inflammatory vascular hyperplasia that sometimes looks like a tumour. It is usually due to an exaggerated response to persistent irritation or minor trauma. The objective of the study was to report a case of recurrent pyogenic granuloma

Description: An erythematous sessile soft tissue growth on the attached gingiva approximately 3 cm × 3 cm. Nontender but bled profusely on probing.

Radiologic findings: No detectable abnormalities in the underlying bone or roots. The lesion was completely excised, and the exposed roots scaled and planed. Histology revealed loosely arranged connective tissue stroma, with moderate chronic inflammatory cell infiltrate, covered by well differentiated stratified squamous epithelium.

Recurrence: 13 years later, the patient represented with a similar lesion on the same location. The presenting complaint and findings were similar to those in the first presentation.

Plan: For complete excision under local anesthesia

Conclusion: This case of recurrent lobular capillary haemangioma corresponded well with available information about the lesion.

Keywords: Capillary haemangioma, gingiva, tertiary hospital

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CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS

Lobular capillary haemangioma of the gingival is associated with higher recurrence rate compared to other sites more aggressive treatment may be required

INTRODUCTION

Lobular capillary haemangioma, previously called pyogenic granuloma, is an inflammatory vascular hyperplasia commonly seen in the oral cavity.¹⁻³ It consists of exuberant connective tissue proliferation usually due to an exaggerated response to minor trauma or persistent irritation.¹ It usually looks like a tumor.⁴ However, it is made up of inflamed fibrovascular tissue. Lobular capillary haemangioma has been known by other names such as pregnancy epulis, giant cell granuloma, papillary hyperplasia; and most famously pyogenic granuloma.^{1,4} The name Lobular Capillary Haemangioma best describes the lesion, based on its histological picture. Clinically, it often presents as an exophytic mass with smooth or ulcerated surface, usually erythematous, and may be attached by either a pedunculated or sessile base.⁵ The lesion grows slowly, taking several weeks to months to reach appreciable size,⁶ with the size at presentation usually ranging from few millimeters to about 4 cm in diameter.⁷

Histologically they are classified as either Lobular or Non-Lobular types, depending on vascularity and proliferation rate.^{4,8,9} It has a peak prevalence in the second and third decades of life, with a characteristic female predominance.^{10,11} The anterior maxillary labial gingiva is reportedly frequently involved, followed by posterior maxillary buccal gingiva.¹¹⁻¹³ Other sites of occurrence include lips, palate, tongue, hypopharynx, nasal septum, and face.^{5,14-20} The diagnosis is complicated by close differentials of gingival enlargements including inflammation, cysts and neoplasm.^{5,21,22}

Reported predisposing factors for lobular capillary hemangioma are low-grade local irritation, (with poor oral hygiene being reported in majority of patients), hormonal factors, traumatic insult, and as a reaction to a wide variety of drugs.^{11,23} Treatment is usually surgical excision, which commonly gives good outcome.^{11,24} However, a few lesions do recur. Gingival lesions show higher recurrence rate as compared to other sites.²⁵ Recurrence has also been

attributed to incomplete tumor removal by simple excision, persistence of the causative factors.²⁶

For recurrent tumors, other treatment measures are employed.²⁷⁻²⁹ example is the Modified Excision with Deep Curettage which includes 2 mm of the adjacent normal tissue to ensure complete removal of the lesion. This can be followed by sclerosing with iodoform gauze impregnated with white head varnish.³⁰⁻³² Non-surgical approaches are also employed in certain cases such as pregnancy and in children.^{33,34} In this paper, a case report of recurrent lobular capillary haemangioma of the gingiva is presented.

CASE REPORT

Presenting Complaint

A 58-year-old female presented in our center 13 years ago with a complaint of swelling on the left upper jaw (2-year duration).

Family/Social History

The patient was using chewing stick and toothbrush at the same time for brushing.

Physical Examination

A solitary, sessile soft tissue growth was observed on the attached gingiva of the buccal aspect of the left maxilla. It extended from the left lateral incisor to first premolar region, measuring approximately 3 cm × 3 cm.

Clinical findings.

It appeared erythematous, with a smooth overlying surface and bled profusely on probing, though nontender. The oral hygiene was grossly poor. No associated tooth mobility, and lymph nodes were palpable but nontender.

Radiologic findings: Peri-apical radiograph showed no detectable abnormalities in the underlying bone or roots

Treatment: Under local anesthesia, the lesion was excised completely, and the exposed roots scaled and planed.

Histopathological examination

Histopathological examination of the excised tissue showed loosely arranged connective tissue stroma, with moderate chronic inflammatory cell infiltrate, covered by well differentiated stratified squamous epithelium.

The diagnosis of pyogenic granuloma (lobular capillary haemangioma) was confirmed.



Figure 1. Lobular Capillary Hemangioma



Fig 2. Oral Hygiene of the patients



Figure 3. Peri-apical Radiograph

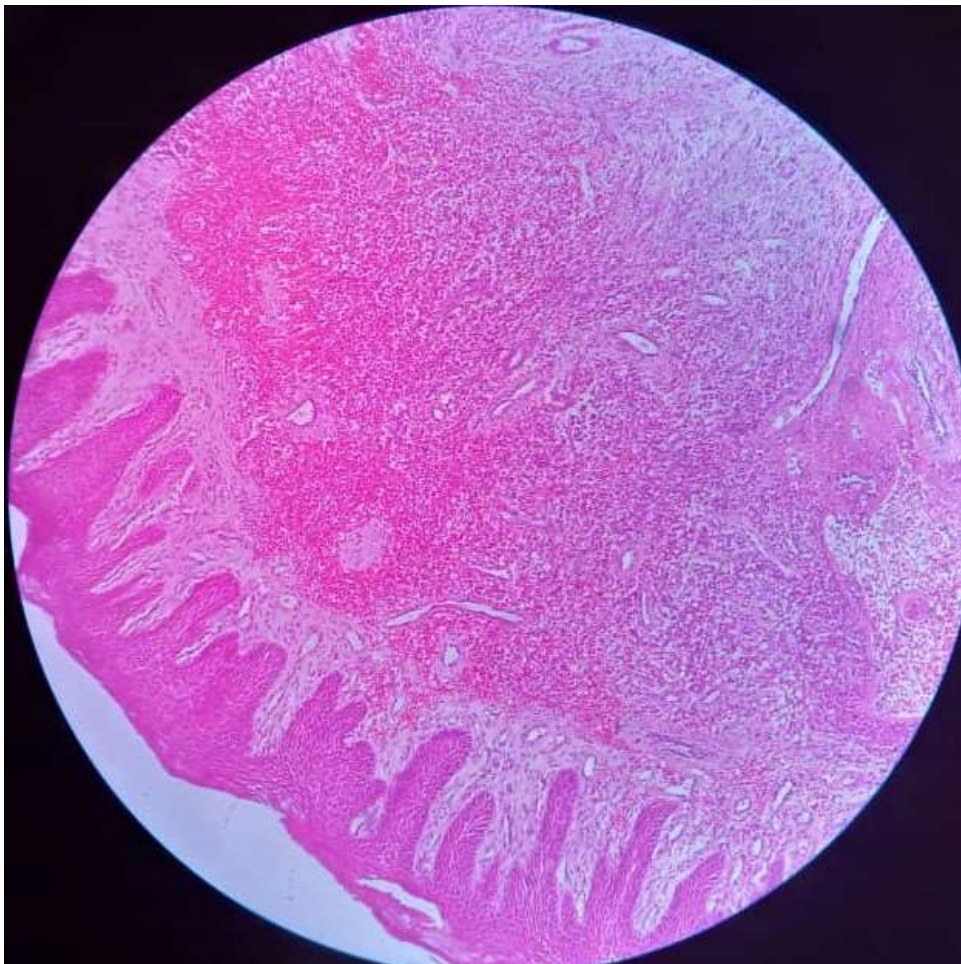
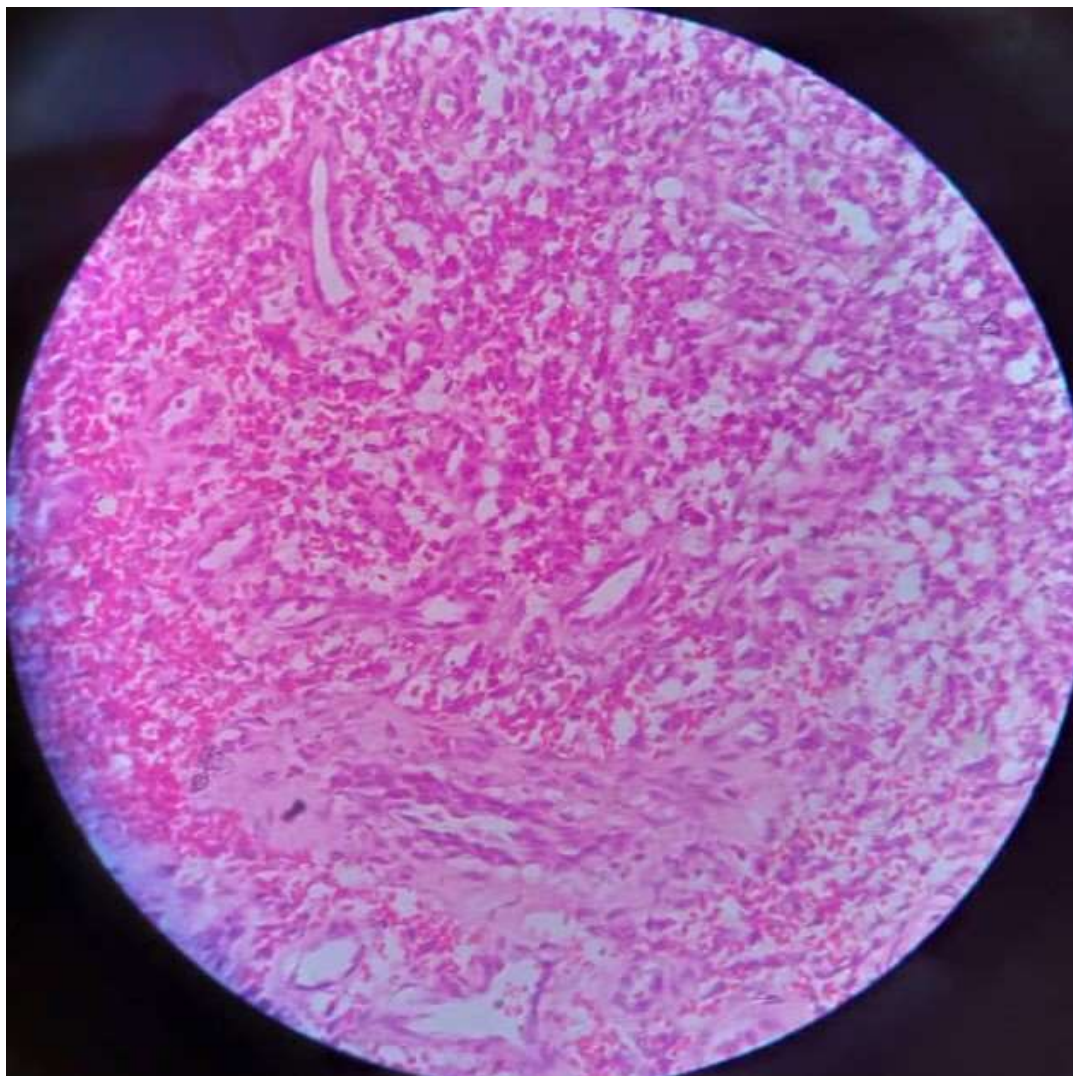


Figure 4. Histopathological Report

Micrograph 1: Intermediate power showing well differentiated epithelium, vascular channels and red blood cells.



Micrograph 2: Higher magnification showing vascular channels and red blood cells and inflammatory cell infiltrate.

Re- Presentation/Recurrence

The patient presented again 13 years later with a lesion on the same location. The presenting complaint and examination findings were like the previous lesion as described above.

A provisional diagnosis of pyogenic granuloma (lobular capillary haemangioma) was made.

Plan: A plan of Modified Excision with Deep Curettage to include 2 mm of the adjacent normal tissue. Also, for possible sclerosing using iodoform gauze impregnated with white head varnish.

Informed consent was obtained from the patient for this report.



Figure 4. Recurrent Growth

DISCUSSION

The case report of recurrent lobular capillary haemangioma of the gingiva presented in this paper compares relatively well with the available information in literature. This patient was a female, which is the sex reported to be more commonly associated with the lesion.^{10,11}

The initial age of presentation, which fell within the sixth decade of life, though not within the documented peak age of second to third decade,^{10,11} is however also documented in literature.³⁵⁻³⁷ The clinical features presented by this patient: a nontender solitary, sessile soft tissue growth on the attached gingiva, which had a smooth surface and bled on probing, are all in keeping with literature findings as well.^{5-7,30} This lesion was located in the buccal aspect of the anterior maxilla, which is the most commonly associated location of the tumor in published studies.^{11,12}

The patient presented after harboring the lesion for two years, which suggested a benign nature of this case.⁶ The combined use of chewing stick and

toothbrush for brushing may point to inability to achieve good oral hygiene using either alone.³⁸ Also, the patient presented with a grossly poor oral hygiene despite the claimed use of both chewing stick and toothbrush. The post excision recurrence of this case, 13 years later, could possibly relate to the age group of this patient, considering that research has shown less recurrence observed in women of childbearing age, who received simple excision with no prophylactic removal of marginal normal tissue. It could also relate to the size of the lesion, which was about double that of those usually presented in the younger patients.³⁰

CONCLUSION

This case of recurrent lobular capillary haemangioma of the gingiva corresponded well with available information about lobular capillary hemangioma in literature.

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Conflict of Interest-

None declared

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