

Ameloblastoma

- Best diagnostic clue: "Bubbly", multilocular, mixed cystic-solid mass in posterior mandibular ramus associated with unerupted 3rd molar tooth
- Mandible: Usually centered in 3rd molar, mandibular ramus region
- Maxilla: Usually centered in premolar - 1st molar region
- Most common odontogenic tumor (35%)
- Often enhancing nodule.

Ameloblastoma

- Locally invasive benign neoplasm, arising from central mandibular or maxillary odontogenic epithelium
- Best diagnostic clue: "Bubbly", multilocular, mixed cystic-solid mass in posterior mandibular ramus associated with unerupted 3rd molar tooth
- Mandible: Usually centered in 3rd molar, mandibular ramus region
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Ameloblastoma - Ddx

- Root periapical abscess
- Dentigerous cyst
- Odontogenic keratocyst
- Fibrous dysplasia
- Aneurysmal bone cyst

Ameloblastoma

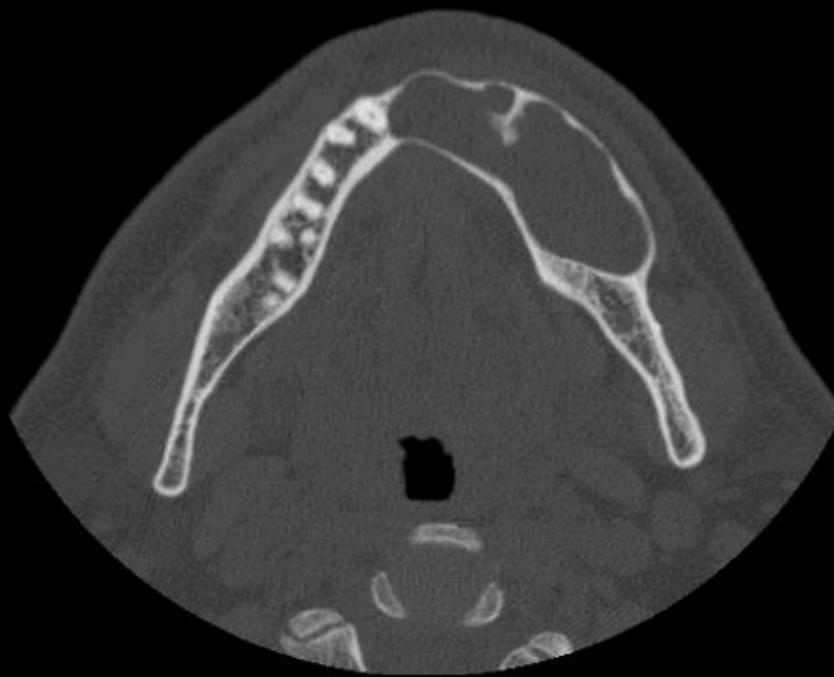
- Hard, painless mandibular mass
- Slow growing, sometimes indolent, benign neoplasm
- Complete surgical excision when small
- Larger dentigerous cyst & odontogenic keratocyst most difficult to differentiate from ameloblastoma
 - Key is absence of nodular enhancement in these 2 lesions compared to ameloblastoma

Ameloblastoma

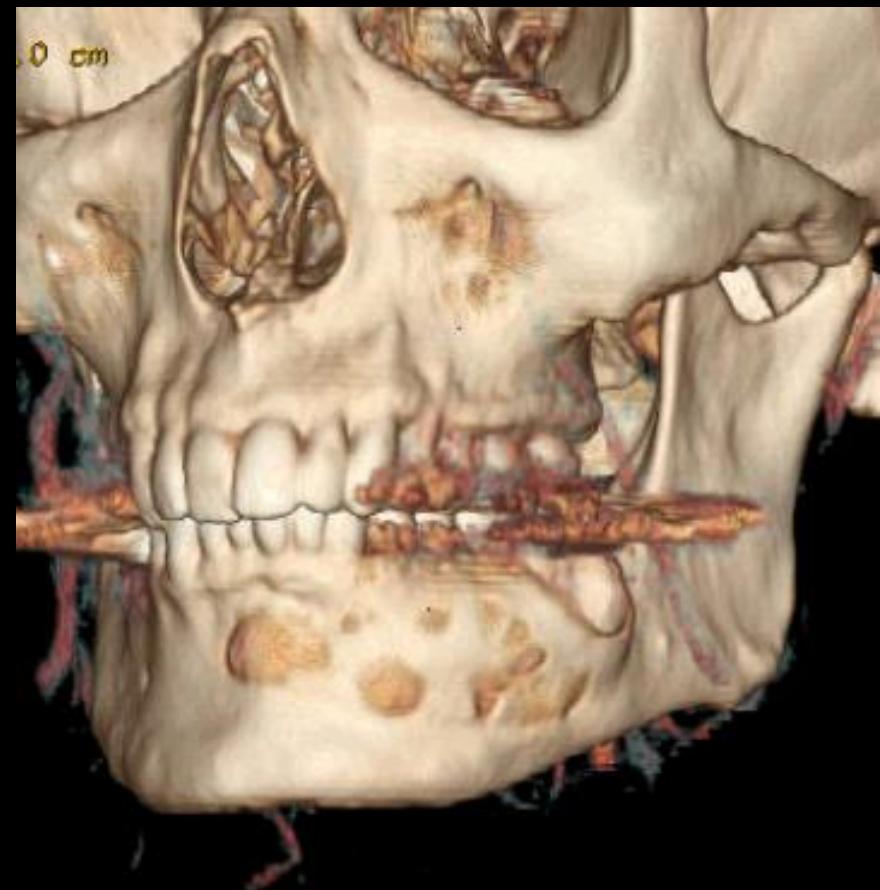
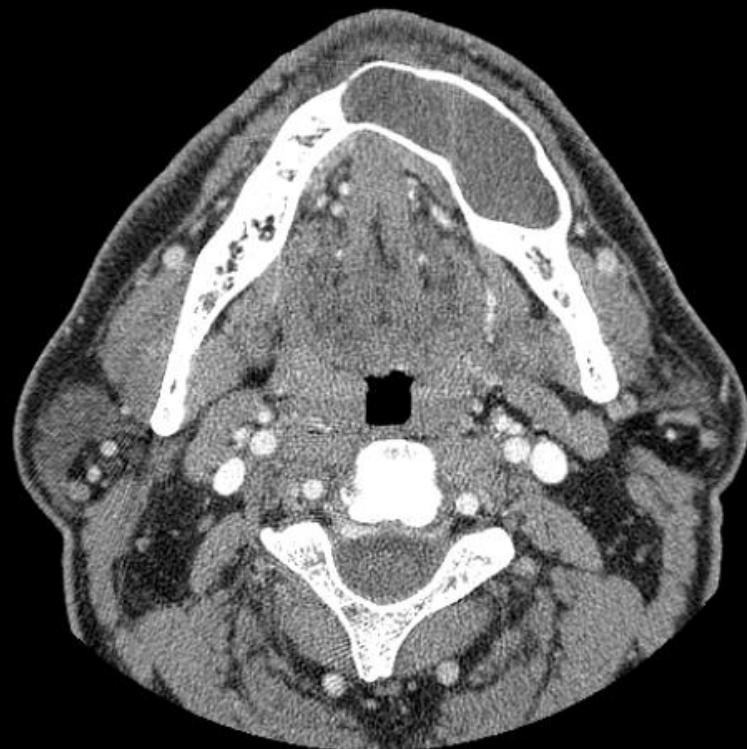




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- contrast

DDX:

- **Root periapical abscess**
 - Clinically painful
 - Larger lesions are destructive, not expansile
- **Dentigerous cyst**
 - Unilocular cystic lesion surrounding tooth CROWN
 - No enhancing mural nodule
 - Unilocular & smaller multilocular cysts
- **Odontogenic keratocyst**
 - Unilocular or multilocular cystic lesion usually of mandible associated with UNERUPTED tooth
 - Smaller, unilocular lesions indistinguishable from dentigerous cyst
 - No enhancing mural nodule
 - Unilocular & smaller multilocular ameloblastoma may mimic odontogenic keratocyst

DDX:

- **Fibrous dysplasia**
 - "Ground-glass" matrix distinctive
 - When cystic, usually some matrix calcification
- **Aneurysmal bone cyst**
 - Children more common than adults
 - Large, round, multilocular mass with fluid-fluid levels
 - No enhancing mural nodule.