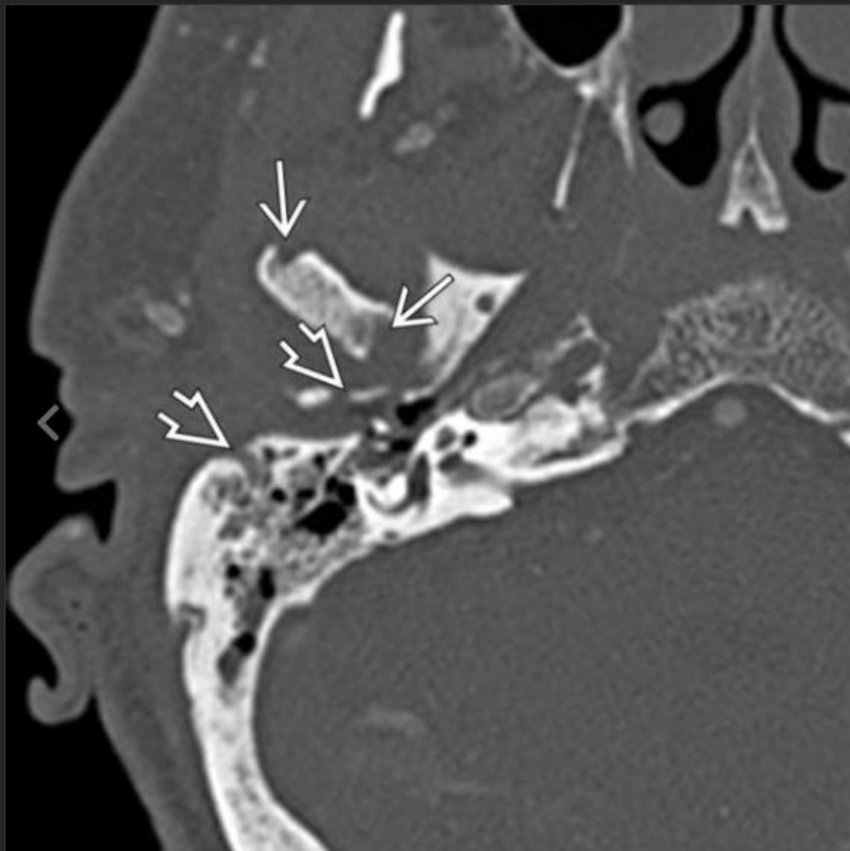


Necrotizing external otitis



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Axial bone CT reveals EAC opacification associated with multiple areas of erosive bony change →. The mandibular condyle is also eroded →, indicating that the infection has spread to involve the TMJ.



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Axial T2WI FS MR in the same patient shows abnormal high signal in the masticator →, parapharyngeal →, & prevertebral → spaces secondary to spread of the EAC infection into the subjacent spaces of the suprahyoid neck. Sigmoid sinus high signal is from thrombosis ⇒.

Necrotizing external otitis

- Severe invasive infection of external auditory canal (EAC), adjacent soft tissues, and skull base.
- Diabetic
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*: 98%
- DDX:
 - EAC squamous cell carcinoma
 - EAC cholesteatoma
 - Postinflammatory medial canal fibrosis
 - EAC keratosis obturans