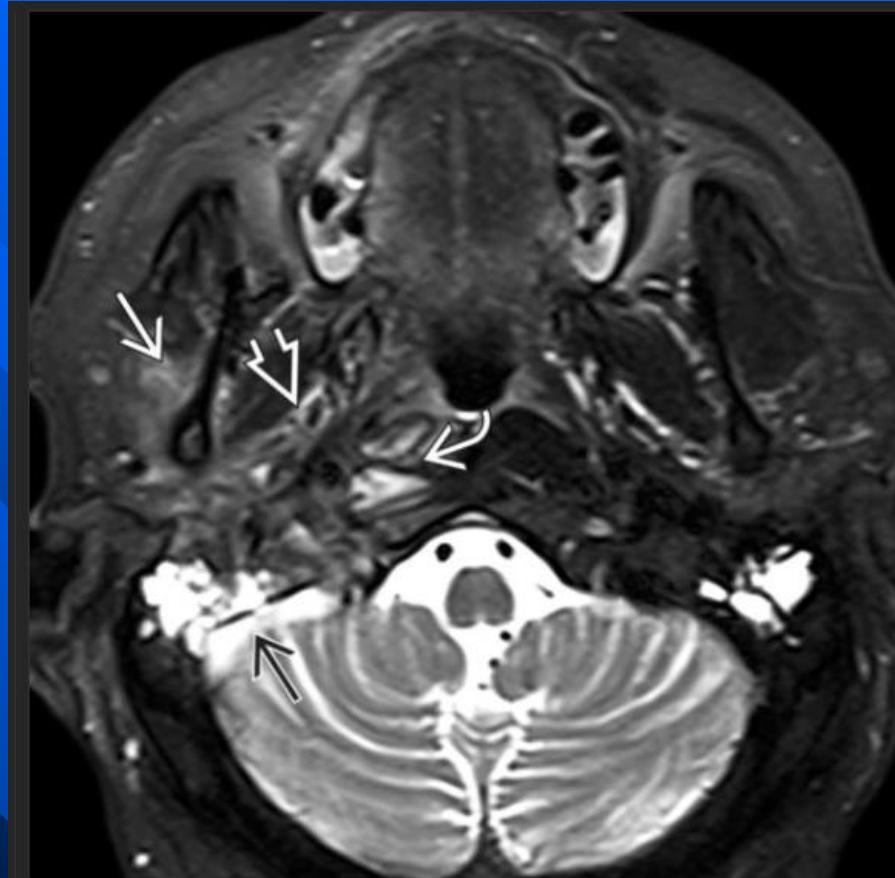


# Necrotizing external otitis



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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 suprathyroid 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