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The role of free fibula flap in the mandibular reconstruction in case of ameloblastoma

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Introduction: The ameloblastoma is a rare odontogenic tumor of the oral cavity. It affects more the mandible than the maxilla and has a predilection for the posterior region. Although this tumor is benign, its behavior is locally aggressive and requires the most often surgical resection margin.

Clinical Observation: A young woman aged 28 has consulted the service of Oral Surgery Department of Rabat, complaining of right mandibular swelling lasting for eight months. Panoramic radiography revealed the presence of a multi-geodic lesion at the right hemi-mandible. A biopsy was performed at the level of the lesion and concluded an ameloblastoma. The patient was subsequently referred to the Maxillofacial Surgery Service of the Hospital of Specialties of Rabat. Two teams, one of maxillofacial surgery and another one for vascular surgery, collaborated to perform a hemi-mandibulectomy with a free fibula flap.

Discussion: The indication of radical or conservative treatment should be guided by the anatomical location of the lesion, the radiological aspect and especially macroscopic intra-operative. Conservative treatment is carried out for non extensive lesions with the assurance of a future clinical monitoring. Bone resection with or without immediate reconstruction is needed in extended forms, breaking cortical bone, the periosteum and soft tissue invasiveness. The free fibula flap was the preferred graft for oromandibular reconstruction because of its rich blood supply and the consistency in the size of the fibula bone and stability. The free fibula flap allows skin palette to be obtained that is up to 25 cm long and 5 cm wide. Thanks to the fibula periosteal vascularization, the fibula bone can withstand multiple osteotomies without compromising significantly, when the periosteum is left set. The free fibula flap can be considered a reliable recommended flap with low morbidity and also adapted for future dental rehabilitation.

Biography

Narjiss Akerzoul has received her Doctorate of Dental Surgery (DDS) from Mohammed V University of Rabat, Morocco in the year 2011. She has then worked as a General Practitioner Dentist in Oral Health Center of Guelmim City, Morocco. She has also completed her Diploma in Biostatistics and Research Methodology during 2014-2015. She has authored and co-authored several international publications in the field of oral surgery and oral oncology. She has been an Editorial Member in Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery of the *International Journal of Oral Health and Medical Research (IJOHMR)*, Reviewer in Omics Group and Biomedical Journals. Her research includes Oral Surgery, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Oncology, Head & Neck Oncology, Oral Implantology and Oral Infectious Diseases.

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