

Case Presentation

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Pain in the Temporomandibular Region

ABSTRACT

The case of a 54-year-old female patient who presented to the clinic with pain in the left temporomandibular joint is described. Following a physical examination, imaging studies were conducted, revealing nodular calcifications in the internal region of the left mandibular ramus as a radiographic finding. Additional imaging studies were subsequently requested.

Keywords: Phleboliths; vascular anomaly; calcifications; radiopaque.

Level of Evidence: IV

Dolor en la región temporomandibular

RESUMEN

Se presenta el caso de una mujer de 54 años de edad que acudió a la consulta por dolor en la articulación temporomandibular izquierda. Luego del examen clínico, se solicitaron estudios por imágenes y, en las radiografías, se observaron calcificaciones nodulares en la región interna de la rama mandibular izquierda. Se decidió indicar otros estudios por imágenes.

Palabras clave: Flebolito; anomalía vascular; calcificaciones; radiopaco.

Nivel de Evidencia: IV

INTRODUCTION

A 54-year-old woman presented with pain in the left temporomandibular joint (TMJ). Clinical examination revealed partial edentulism in both the upper and lower arches, crepitus in the left TMJ, tenderness upon palpation, and restricted opening and closing movements. Panoramic and selective radiographs of the TMJ were obtained (Figures 1 and 2).

FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATION OF IMAGING STUDIES

The panoramic radiograph revealed partial edentulism in the upper and lower arches with bone resorption secondary to tooth extraction, further exacerbated by the absence of prosthetic rehabilitation. The remaining teeth showed restorations. In the region of the left mandibular ascending ramus, multiple nodular calcifications were observed, characterized by a radiopaque halo surrounding a central radiolucent area.

The TMJ radiograph demonstrated sclerotic areas and erosion, predominantly in the left condylar region. The calcifications identified on the panoramic radiograph were visualized with greater precision.

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Figure 1. Panoramic radiograph of the temporomandibular joint.

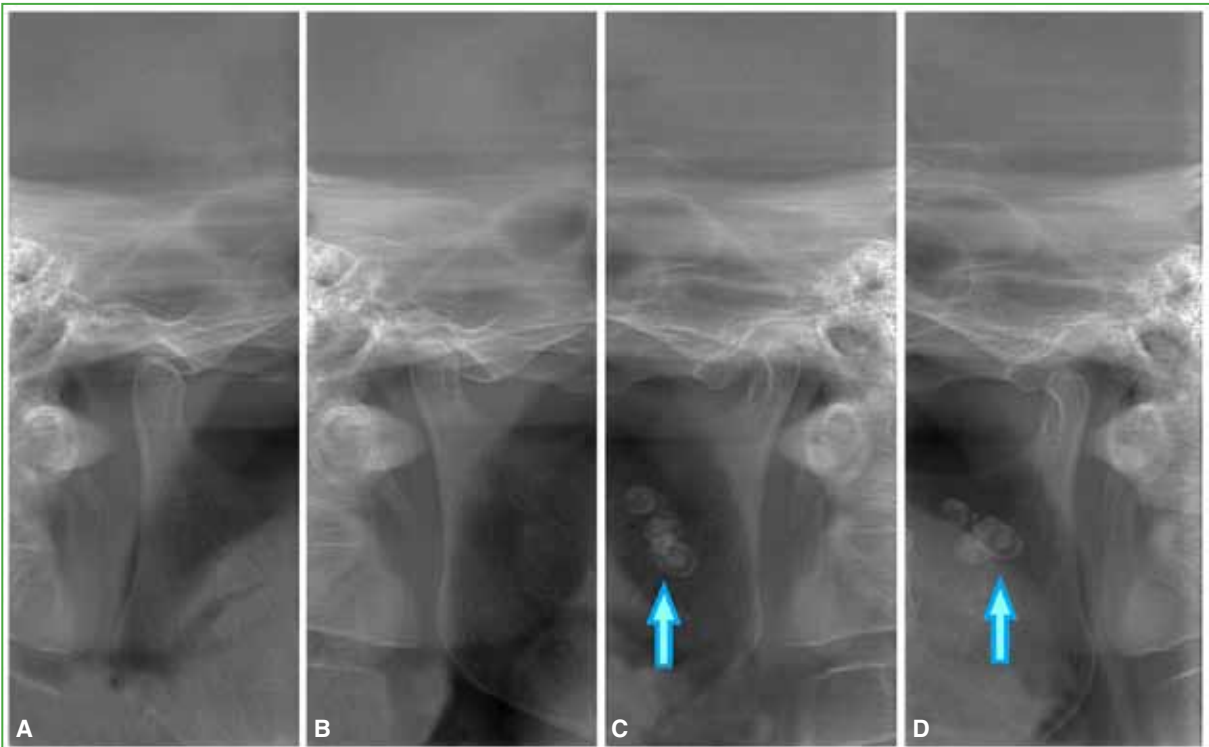


Figure 2. Radiograph of the temporomandibular joint. **A.** Right joint with open mouth. **B.** Right joint with mouth closed. **C.** Left joint with mouth closed. **D.** Left joint with open mouth.

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