Introduction

Sialolithiasis is one of the most common diseases of the salivary glands. The sublingual gland and minor salivary glands are rarely affected whereas the submandibular gland accounts for upto 80% of the cases. Sialoliths usually measure from 1 to 10 mm and giant stones are classified as those exceeding 20mm in any one dimension. In literature large sialoliths of Wharton's ducts have rarely been reported. This case report describes a patient presenting with an unusually large sialolith measuring approximately 38mm, the aetiology, diagnosis and the subsequent management of the patient.This is a case report of a 72 year old male patient who presented with a hard mass beneath the tongue and symptoms of occasional pain during intake of meals.

Discussion

Clinical assessment revealed a painless palpable hard mass in the floor of the mouth. Patient reported mild pain during the intake of meals. Intraorally there was a large, firm, tender, palpable swelling in the floor of the mouth. Orthopantomography revealed a salivary stone. A Computed tomography scan was requested pre-operatively to plan for surgical management of the stone. This scan revealed a giant sized sialolith measuring 38mm in largest diameter. The enlarged gland was associated with abscessed components (possibly multiloculated) posteriorly and laterally to the stone, measuring atleast 32mm.

Conclusion

This case highlights the importance of early referrals and three dimensional imaging particularly when encountering giant sialolith.