



# UNKNOWN FINDINGS IN THE ORAL CAVITY: A CASE REPORT

Andriana Maldonado, DDS, • LaQuia Vinson, DDS, MPH  
Indiana University School of Dentistry, Indianapolis, IN – Riley Hospital for Children

## ABSTRACT

Preschool children are innately curious and constantly exploring their new world. One of many habits a young child may exhibit is placing objects in their mouth. Unfortunately, this habit can lead to choking, poisoning, or other injuries. While it is common to swallow objects that a child is playing with, it is not uncommon for these objects to embed themselves in the oral cavity tissue as well.

## INTRODUCTION

This presentation discusses a 12-month-old male, who presented to the Riley Hospital for Children Emergency Department with a large mass on the upper left side. The patient's father reported his son started having pain yesterday and that there is something wrong with his tooth. The patient had an essentially negative medical history and had no current medications or allergies.

## DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

1. Eruption Cyst
2. Dental abscess
3. Hemangioma
4. Foreign body

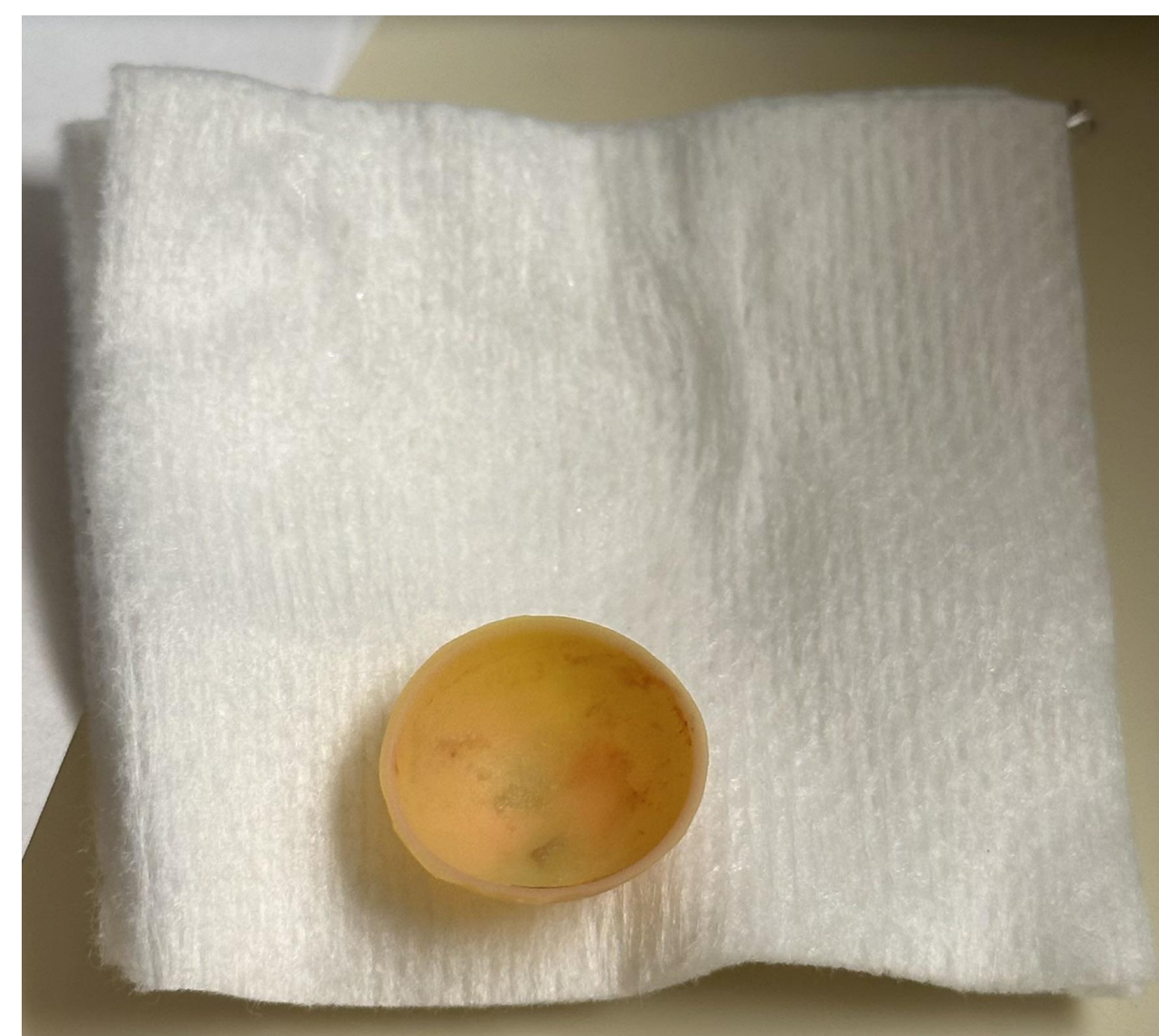
Clinical examination revealed a lesion approximately 1.5 cm by 1.5 cm round, tan-colored lesion, which had no blanching upon palpation. The lesion was on the maxillary left posterior arch, distal to the primary maxillary left canine (tooth H), and in the position of the primary maxillary first molar (tooth I). Radiographic findings revealed no injury to primary teeth.

## TREATMENT

A periapical radiograph was taken of the maxillary left side. The lesion appeared slightly radiopaque, however could still see through the lesion. No obvious pathology to the unerupted primary maxillary first molar. An unfolded 2x2 gauze throat shield was placed, and cotton pliers were utilized to determine if gingival tissue and unknown mass could be separated. The object was delicately peeled from its border of the gingival tissue and removed with no complications. Extraoral examination of the object was completed and determined to be.

## RESULTS

The mass was diagnosed as a foreign body in the oral cavity. After removal no follow up regarding the incident was required.



## CLINICAL PHOTOS AND RADIOGRAPHS

