

Ludwig's Angina

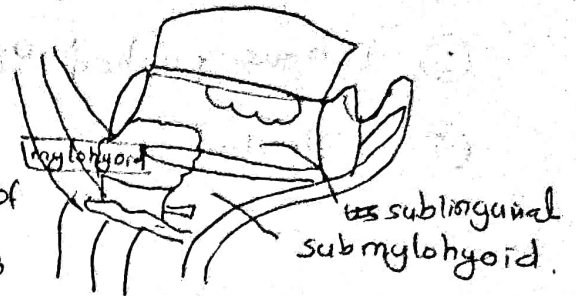
- infection or cellulitis of the submandibular space
- submandibular space is divided into 2 compartments by Mylohyoid muscle.

Etiology

- mixed/polymicrobial infection:
α Hemolytic streptococci,
staphylococci and
Bacteroides

both aerobes
and anaerobes

Diaphragm of
Floor
of mouth

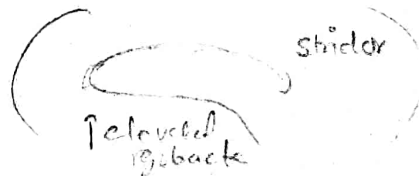


- source of infection:
 - Dental infection
 - submandibular sialadenitis
 - injuries or infection of the oral mucosa
 - Fracture of mandible

Symptoms:

- Bilateral swelling of floor of mouth
- Pain or tenderness in the floor of mouth
- Difficulty in swallowing
- Drooling of saliva.
- Problems with speech
- Swelling and redness in the neck

!! - Airway obstruction.



Criteria For diagnosis

Goldring's criteria

- ① Not an abscess - cellulitis
- ② always bilateral
- ③ serosanguinous fluid not pus
- ④ spread occur via tissue spaces & not via lymphatics
- ⑤ sparing of submandibular & sublingual gland

Examination

① Pain & tenderness in floor of mouth below the mandible

clinical feature
→ difficulty in swallowing (odynophagia)

② woody hard consistency

- Trismus

③ Tongue pushed upwards & backwards

④ Stridor

Management

- Systemic antibiotics

- Incision and drainage → relieve swelling

Intra oral: infection localized to sublingual space

External: infection involves submylohyoid space

Ludwing angina → No respiratory distress → Secure airway

Ludwing " → Respiratory distress → Tracheostomy

- mainly clinical diagnosis

Δ → USA of neck

- CECT - D.O.C.