

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery - Clinical Scenario Questions

1. A 25-year-old male presents with severe pain 3 days after extraction of a mandibular third molar. The socket appears empty with exposed bone and foul odor.

What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A) Osteomyelitis
- B) Pericoronitis
- C) Dry socket (Alveolar osteitis)
- D) Acute cellulitis

Answer: C) Dry socket

Explanation: Severe pain after 2–3 days, empty socket, foul smell.

2. A 40-year-old patient presents with rapidly spreading swelling of the floor of the mouth, difficulty swallowing, drooling of saliva, and elevation of the tongue.

What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A) Submandibular abscess
- B) Ludwig's angina
- C) Ranula
- D) Peritonsillar abscess

Answer: B) Ludwig's angina

Explanation: Bilateral submandibular, sublingual, submental spaces → airway risk.

3. A 10-year-old child sustained trauma to the chin and now presents with preauricular pain, limited mouth opening, and deviation of the mandible to the right on opening.

What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A) Condylar fracture (right side)
- B) Coronoid fracture
- C) Zygomatic fracture
- D) Dislocation of TMJ

Answer: A) Condylar fracture (right side)

Explanation: Chin trauma commonly causes condylar fracture; deviation toward fractured side.

4. A 28-year-old male presents with swelling over the right zygomatic area following trauma. He has restricted mouth opening, diplopia on upward gaze, and flattening of the cheekbone.

What is the most probable diagnosis?

- A) Le Fort I fracture
- B) Le Fort II fracture
- C) Zygomatic complex fracture (Tripod fracture)
- D) Orbital blowout fracture

Answer: C) Zygomatic complex fracture

Explanation: Triad → cheek flattening, trismus, diplopia due to orbital involvement.

5. A 32-year-old female presents with a slow-growing, painless swelling of the posterior mandible. X-ray shows multilocular radiolucency with 'soap bubble' appearance.

What is the likely diagnosis?

- A) Ameloblastoma
- B) Dentigerous cyst
- C) Odontogenic keratocyst
- D) Central giant cell granuloma

Answer: A) Ameloblastoma

Explanation: Multilocular 'soap bubble' radiolucency is typical for ameloblastoma.