

IMAGES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

Ranula



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A HEALTHY 6-YEAR-OLD GIRL PRESENTED WITH A 3-WEEK HISTORY OF A lesion under the tongue. There was no history of trauma or congenital occurrence. She reported discomfort with swallowing. On physical examination, there was a soft, nontender fluctuant mass about 3 cm in diameter on the left side of the floor of the mouth. Overlying submandibular skin revealed no abnormalities. A clinical diagnosis of ranula was made, and the lesion was excised under general anesthesia. A ranula is a benign, mucous-containing cyst of the sublingual salivary gland that is caused by either rupture or blockade of the salivary duct. In children, the main differential diagnosis includes vascular malformations such as lymphangiomas, infectious abscesses, and soft-tissue tumors. In this patient, histopathological examination confirmed a salivary-duct cyst or retention-type ranula. No recurrence has been observed after 1 year of follow-up.

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMicm1202636

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