

## Rationale of oral diagnosis and maxillofacial imaging



### Abstract

Oral diagnosis of the maxillofacial lesions has always been a challenging puzzle from its inception. The lesion which varies from mere dental pulpal infections to carcinomas provides a broad spectrum of diagnostic challenge. It is extremely important to follow a systematic approach towards the diagnosis of the soft and hard tissue lesions. The approach must not be too short to miss the defining features of the lesions; or too long to consume the extended clinical time for the patients. A categorical approach of accurate clinical questioning pertaining to a lesion is mandatory for proceeding further. A systematic working clinical classification of the lesions pertaining to the soft and hard tissue lesions has to be made available for the clinician. The experience of the clinician and the knowledge of the variety of lesions present an overriding role in the entire process of diagnosis. Rationale of investigations is another pivotal area in confirming the provisional diagnosis. It is unethical for sending all the patients for a predefined set of investigations regardless of the clinical evaluation. An accurate flowchart of rationale of investigations for the hard tissue lesions has to be worked out ready from the plain film conventional radiograph to the cone beam computed tomography imaging (CBCT). Similarly for the soft tissue lesions, a look up guide for the selection of investigation mode has to be prepared and made available. It can vary from Ultrasonography (USG), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) leading to biopsy. The concern and least invasive, but most efficient measures for diagnosis and treatment for the patient has to be the overruling theme in the entire procedure.

This paper aims to summarize on the righteous ways to be followed in clinical scenario in the diagnosis and investigations of the lesions affecting oral soft and hard tissues.

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### Biography

Tim Peter Thermadam had completed his BDS (Bachelor of Dental Surgery) from RGUHS, Bangalore, India and MDS (Master of Dental Surgery) in Oral Medicine and Radiology from Yenepoya University, Mangalore, India. He has an academic and research experience of over 8 years in under graduate and post graduate teaching for dental students. His PhD in oral medicine from Yenepoya University, Mangalore, India is nearing completion. He has over 35 publications in indexed international journals and over 100 citations till date. He is also serving as editorial member of reputed indexed international journals. He is currently working as Associate Professor in Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, KMCT Dental College, Calicut, Kerala, India. He has his own running dental clinical practice of over 10 years.



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