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TITLE PAGE

Muscle entrapment in Orbito-zygomatico-maxillary complex fracture

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Keywords: Orbito-zygomatic fracture; Ophthalmologic injury; Muscle entrapment;

1. Case report

A 48-year-old man without relevant personal medical history, was addressed to the emergency department for medical care following a maxillofacial trauma after receiving a stone on the left cheekbone. The general examination revealed an alcohol-related trauma without loss of consciousness. The patient was alert, Glasgow 14 and presented a spontaneously resolved epistaxis. At the maxillofacial examination, we have found a middle face trauma with a deformation of the left hemiface due to bones displacement, a left peri orbital hematoma, photophobia, a very painful limitation of all ocular movement of the left eye (Figure 1, supplementary video) and diplopia. There was no loss of vision. The mouth opening was painfully limited to 1.5 centimeters. The rest of the maxillofacial examination was unremarkable. The patient was not comforted by opioid analgesics. A computerized tomography (CT scan) was realized (Figure 2).

What is your diagnosis?

2. Answer

Left orbito-zygomatico-maxillary complex (OZMC) fracture with lateral wall displacement and entrapment of the lateral and inferior rectus muscles, without intracranial lesion but with an undisplaced and asymptomatic fracture of the left mandibular coronoid process.

Immediate surgery under general anesthesia was performed. An ophthalmic exam was realized at the beginning of the procedure. No corneal or intra-orbital lesions were found. Then, we have realized a forced duction test which has confirmed the limitation of the extra ocular motility for elevation an adduction of the left globe. All the fracture sites were controlled by three surgical approaches (oral, sub ciliary and sub brow). After liberation of oculomotor muscles, we have realized an open reduction and osteosynthesis by mini-plaques (Modus[®] 1.5) of the different fracture sites (Figure 3). At the end of the surgery, the forced duction test showed no entrapment. The postoperative period was uneventful, and an ophthalmologic control confirmed the absence of trouble.

3. Discussion

Lateral orbital wall fractures are rarely isolated but most commonly seen with orbito-zygomaticomaxillary complex (OZMC) fractures. These fractures account for around 27% of all facial fractures¹. Alcohol-related assault for males are the most common presentation of this type of injury. Restriction of the extraocular muscles is among the most frequent ophthalmic injuries associated with fractures of the OZMC, reaching up to 15% of cases². There is a real benefit of early preoperative detection of ophthalmological injuries to manage it as soon as possible. The delay between the trauma and the treatment is a prognostic factor for ophthalmologic outcomes. Furthermore, it is important from a medicolegal position². Thus, entrapped muscle with limitation of motility is an indication of immediate surgical management³. The maxillofacial surgeons should have a thorough knowledge of the various ophthalmologic injuries that could occur secondary to facial trauma⁴.

Computed tomography (CT) is the gold standard for the diagnosis, the evaluation of the complexity of the OZMC fracture and allow to research complications such as globe, optic nerve and muscle injuries. In addition, the CT provides information on neurologic status to rule out any neurological cause of confusion in an alcoholic patient (skull fracture, extra-sub dural hematoma or intracranial bleeding). The evaluation of the sphenozygomatic suture provides a good estimation of the degree of displacement of the lateral wall. Significant displaced bones in OZMC fractures should be reduced and fixed to preserve the anatomical shape of the orbit and to preserve their function of globe protectors⁵.

In all cases, the CT should not delay the treatment. The diagnosis of muscle entrapment is first of all clinic with typically a painful limitation of the extraocular muscles in a context of facial trauma. The

clinical examination should be systematized to ensure to not omit brain or eyeball lesions. The alcohol and the post traumatic confusion should not be underestimated.

Figure 1: Patient pre-operative ophthalmologic examination. Here, we can see a painful limitation

of adduction of the left eye. This eye was limited in all directions of the visual field.

Figure 2: Pre-operative X-Ray computed tomography, 3D reconstruction and 2D axial and coronal

view of interest.

Figure 3: Post-operative X-Ray computed tomography, 3D reconstruction and 2D axial and coronal

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