

Successful Use of Platelet-Rich Fibrin for the Healing of Residual Bone Cavity After Enucleation of Large Radicular Cyst

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Abstract

The choice of optimal method for the healing of residual bone cavities after enucleation of large radicular cysts is widely discussed. One of them may be using platelet-rich fibrin (PRF), which produce growth factors that stimulate reparative osteogenesis. We have described a case of successful use of PRF for the healing of residual bone cavity after enucleation of large maxillary radicular cyst. A 58-year-old female patient presented with a large maxillary radicular cyst. Cyst enucleation was performed, the residual bone cavity was filled with PRF clot, and the bone wound was completely covered with a mucoperiosteal flap. One year after the operation, cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) visualized the vague contours of the residual cavity filled with bone trabeculae, which had significantly decreased compared to the preoperative findings. Parietal bone regeneration was detected, while no signs of organotypicity were recorded in the center. Two years after the operation, CBCT showed complete filling of the residual cavity with bone tissue to the level of the teeth roots, with beginnings of vestibular cortical formation. Separate sections of the cortical bone layer on the vestibular side at the level of teeth 1.2 and 1.1 were in the process of repair. The functioning preserved teeth 1.3, 1.2, 1.1 and 2.1 were in stable condition. In the case described by us, the use of PRF contributed not only to the healing of residual bone cavity after enucleation of large maxillary radicular cyst, which was confirmed by the results of CBCT, but also to the preservation of dental functionality in an aesthetically significant area.

Keywords: reparative osteogenesis; residual bone cavity; platelet-rich fibrin; enucleation; large radicular cyst

Introduction

The residual bone cavities after enucleation of large radicular cysts are associated with an increased risk of infection and a decrease in bone strength in the area of the pathological focus, which makes the problem relevant [1]. They can be treated by filling with various bone-plastic materials, as well as using biological substances that stimulate reparative osteogenesis [2]. In recent years, platelet concentrates capable of inducing the proliferation and differentiation of mesenchymal stem cells have been widely used in regenerative medicine. For example, platelet-rich fibrin (PRF) can produce growth factors for at least seven days at the site of exposure, which stimulate osteoblast activity and accelerate bone regeneration by increasing fibroblast migration [3]. We have described a case of successful use of PRF for the healing of residual bone cavities after enucleation of large maxillary radicular cyst.

Case Presentation

A 58-year-old female patient presented to the dental department with a complaint of aching pain and gradually increasing swelling in the maxillary area for 3-4 days. The patient has not been examined by a dentist for 5-7 years. She felt discomfort in the maxillary area only during physical exertion in a forward-leaning position. The patient denied that she had any significant diseases, major injuries and surgeries, blood transfusions, or allergies to food or medications.

Clinical examination revealed a swelling in the maxillary anterior region. Oral examination revealed local hyperemia and swelling of the oral mucosa at the level of the alveolar part of teeth 13-21, smoothness of the transitional fold due to the rounded bulge. There was pain and fluctuation in this area during palpation. The teeth 13, 12, 11 and 21 with preserved crown parts without carious lesions were slightly painful upon percussion.

Cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) revealed osteolytic lesion with clear contours and a well-defined sclerotic margin of varying thickness. It

extended 17 mm in the vestibulo-oral direction to the border of the maxillary sinus, significantly pushing it aside, and 22 mm along the alveolar bone in the mesiodistal direction from tooth 1.3 to 2.1. The endodontically untreated apical parts of the teeth roots 1.3, 1.2, 1.1 and 2.1 protruded into the periradicular lesion. Due to the preservation of sufficient bone thickness on the vestibular side, root divergence was not observed (**Figure 1**). Based on the clinical signs and CBCT imaging, the final diagnosis was maxillary radicular cyst.

For one month, the patient received complex conservative therapy to relieve acute inflammation. Before surgery, the cyst-related teeth 1.3, 1.2, 1.1 and 2.1 were endodontically treated. Cyst enucleation was performed with preliminary sedation under local anesthesia. Following the enucleation, histopathological analysis confirmed the presence of a radicular cyst. The apices of the teeth root 1.3, 1.2, 1.1 and 2.1 protruding into the periradicular lesion were resected, the residual bone cavity was filled with PRF clot (**Figure 2**), and the bone wound was completely covered with a mucoperiosteal flap (**Figure 3**).

To prepare a PRF clot, 5 ml of whole venous blood was taken into each of two sterile vacutainer tubes without anticoagulant. The tubes were centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 10 minutes, resulting in three layers: the lower red fraction (red blood cells), the upper straw-colored layer (cellular plasma), and the middle fraction, which was collected 2 mm below the lower dividing line, representing the PRF clot [4]

Long-term results were evaluated for up to 2 years. The patient did not experience any problems from the oral and maxillofacial organs. One year after the operation, CBCT visualized the vague contours of the residual cavity filled with bone trabeculae, which had significantly decreased compared to the preoperative findings. Parietal bone regeneration was detected, while no signs of organotypicity were recorded in the center (**Figure 4**).

Two years after the operation, CBCT showed complete filling of the residual cavity with bone tissue to the level of the teeth roots, with beginnings of vestibular cortical formation. Separate sections of the cortical bone layer on the vestibular side at the level of teeth 1.2 and 1.1 were in the process of repair (**Figure 5**). The functioning preserved teeth 1.3, 1.2, 1.1 and 2.1 were in stable condition (**Figure 6**).

Discussion

The problem of choosing the optimal method for the healing of residual bone cavities after enucleation of large radicular cysts does not lose its relevance. One of them may be using biological substances that produce growth factors that stimulate reparative osteogenesis. This approach has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended for use in dental practice [5]. PRF is a biological substance rich in platelets and growth factors which promote bone regeneration such as bone morphogenetic protein, insulin-like growth factor, platelet-derived growth factor, vascular endothelial growth factor, epithelial growth factor, fibroblast growth factor, and transforming growth factor- β 1. Their gradual release correlates with PRF clot resorption [6]. PRF enhance osteoblasts proliferation and the expression of collagen type I α -1, runt-related transcription factor 2, alkaline phosphatase, osteocalcin, and glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase genes which play an important role in bone formation. PRF is easily manufactured and has bioactive elements not requiring

anticoagulants in its preparation. It is resistant to stretching and elastic, and it can either be applied with or without combining it with various bone-plastic materials [7]. At the same time, despite the obvious prospects use of PRF to stimulate reparative osteogenesis after enucleation of odontogenic cysts, the efficacy of the method has been shown mainly in descriptions of clinical cases.

Conclusions

We have described a clinical case of successful use of PRF to eliminate a residual bone cavity after enucleation of large maxillary radicular cyst. The use of PRF contributed not only to the healing of residual bone cavity, which was confirmed by the results of CBCT, but also to the preservation of dental functionality in an aesthetically significant area.

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