

Today's Topic

CLASSIFICATION AND INVESTIGATIONS OF NECK SWELLING



Presented by-

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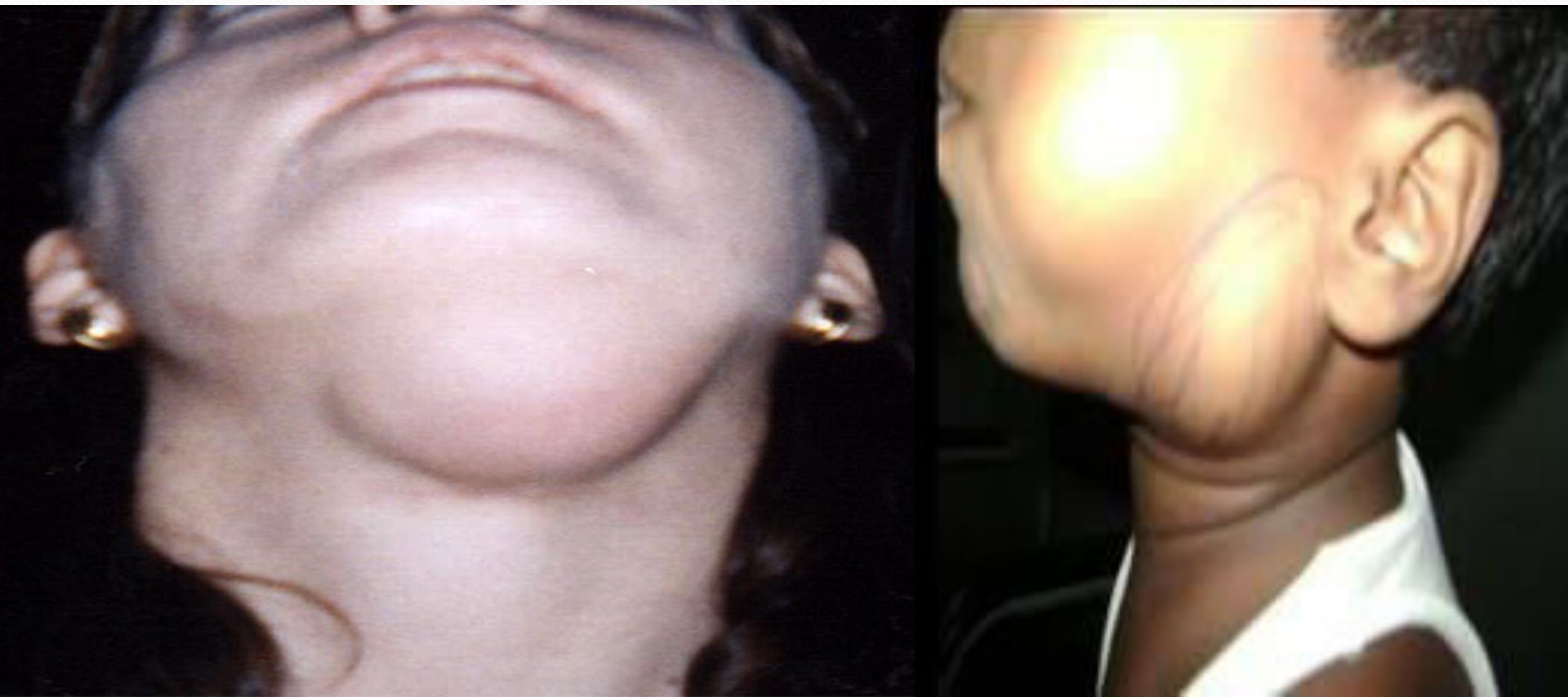
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CLASSIFICATION OF NECK SWELLING

According to situation

- Mid line swelling
- lateral swelling.



CLASSIFICATION OF NECK SWELLING

According to consistency

- ❖ Cystic swelling
- ❖ Solid swelling.



NECK SWELLING

- About 50% of the neck swellings are of thyroid swelling or goiter.
- Other swellings are of congenital, developmental, infective, salivary gland diseases, neurogenic & parapharyngeal space tumors.

Midline swellings

- Thyroglossal duct cyst/thyroglossal duct sinus.
- Sublingual dermoid cyst/dermoid cyst.
- Plunging ranula.
- Thyroid swelling at isthmus.
- Subhyoid bursa.
- Pretrachial, prelaryngeal lymphnodes.

Lateral neck swelling

- Thyroid swelling or goiter.
- Lymph node enlargement- non-specific cause.
 - Bacterial cause
 - Viral cause.
 - Neoplastic cause.
 - Metastatic .
- Lymphangiomas / cystic hygroma.
- Branchial cyst/ Branchial sinus.
- Salivary gland swelling- parotid swelling
 - Submandibular gland swelling.
- Lipoma .
- Sebaceous cyst.
- Laryngocele / pharyngeal pouches.
- Carotid body tumour/ schwannoma .

According to consistency

1. Cystic swelling
2. Solid swelling

Cystic swelling- Thyroglossal cyst.

- Dermoid cyst.
- Branchial cyst.
- Plunging ranula.
- Cystic hygroma/ lymphangioma.
- Laryngocele.

Solid swelling

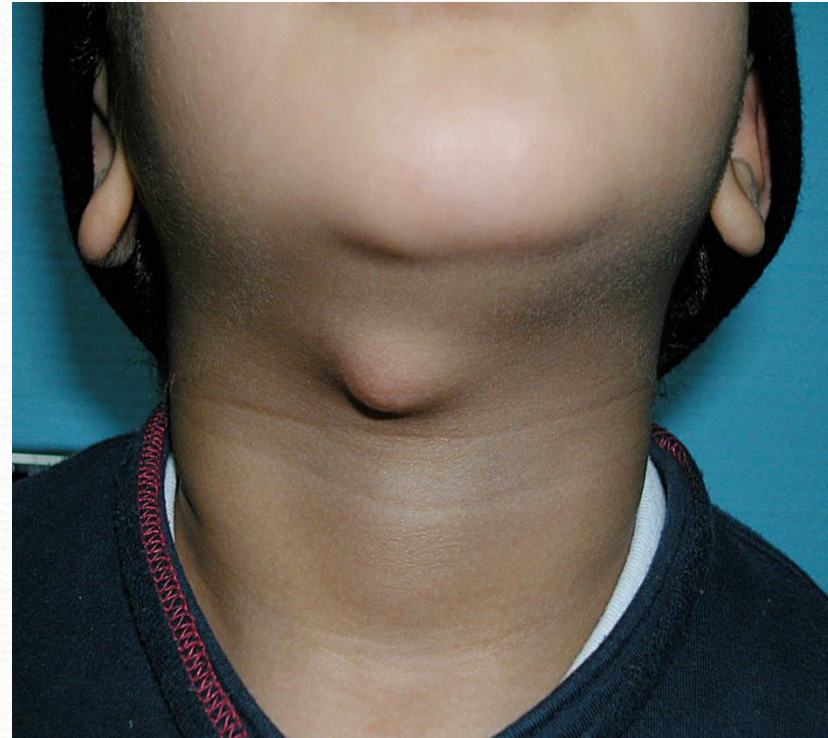
- Lymph node swelling.
- Thyroid swelling.
- Salivary gland swelling
- Carotid body tumor.
- Branchiogenic carcinoma.
- Sternomastoid tumor.
- Cervical rib.

INVESTIGATIONS OF NECK SWELLING

- Complete blood count-Hb%, TC,DC & ESR.
- X-ray soft tissue neck both AP & Lat. View.
- X-ray chest both PA & AP view.
- USG of neck.
- Thyroid function tests- TSH, Free T₃ & Free T₄.
Thyroid gland scanning.
Iodine uptake test.
- C T scan /MRI.
- FNAC/ Biopsy.
- Carotid angiogram.
- PBF

Thyroglossal cyst

A thyroglossal cyst is a fibrous cyst that forms from a persistent thyroglossal duct.



Thyroglossal cyst

presentation

- Usually presents as a midline neck lump and is usually painless, smooth and cystic.
- The most common locations is midline or slightly off midline.
- A thyroglossal cyst can develop anywhere along a thyroglossal duct.
- A thyroglossal cyst will move upwards with protrusion of the tongue.

Thyroglossal cyst

Embryology

- The thyroglossal tract arises from the foramen caecum at the junction of the anterior two-thirds and posterior one-third of the tongue.
- Any part of the tract can persist causing a sinus, fistula or cyst.
- Most fistulae are acquired following rupture or incision of the infected thyroglossal cyst.



Thyroglossal cyst

Clinical features

- Most often present with a palpable asymptomatic midline neck mass below the level of the hyoid bone.
- Moves during swallowing or on protrusion of the tongue.
- Some patients presents with neck or throat pain, or dysphagia.
- 75% present as midline swellings.
- The remainder can be found as far lateral as lateral tip of the hyoid bone.
- Typically, the cyst will move upwards on protrusion of the tongue,

Thyroglossal cyst

Investigations:

1. Thyroid scan –to know functioning thyroid Tissue.
2. F N A C.

Thyroglossal cyst

Treatment

- ❖ Surgical resection- requiring concomitant removal of the midsection of the hyoid bone (Sis-trunk procedure) to prevent recurrence.
- ❖ The Sis-trunk procedure involves excision not only of the cyst but also of the path's tract and branches.

Sublingual dermoid cyst (Dermoid cyst)

- It is a thin walled cyst lined by squamous epithelium and contains cheesy material.
- These cysts are always in midline.



Sublingual dermoid cyst (Dermoid cyst)

TYPES-

- a. According to position
- b. According to Origin

a. According to position

- ❖ Midline variety- Sublingual
Cervical
- ❖ Lateral variety- Sublingual
Cervical

Types-According to Origin

1. **Epidermoid cyst**- lined with squamous epithelium & contain cheesy material.
2. **True dermoid cyst**- lined with sq. epithelium contain hair, hair follicles, sebaceous gland & sweat glands.
3. **Teratoid cyst**- lined with sq. or respiratory epithelium and contain ectodermal, endodermal or mesodermal elements is teeth, nail , thyroid tissue.

Sublingual dermoid cyst (Dermoid cyst)

Clinical Features

- Usually present in the ages of 10 to 15 years.
- Equally in both sexes.

Symptoms

- Presents with painless swelling under the tongue.
- Sometimes sudden increase in size may become painful.

Signs

- Appear as a midline swelling in the floor of mouth with a smooth surface.(sublingual type)
- Gives rise to double chin appearance.
- Does not move with protrusion of tongue.

Sublingual dermoid cyst (Dermoid cyst)

Differential diagnosis:

- **Ranula-** Brilliant translucent midline swelling
- **Suprahyoid thyroglossal cyst-** moves up with protrusion of tongue.
- **Submental lymph node.**

Treatment:

- Treatment for dermoid cyst is complete surgical removal, preferably in one piece and without any spillage of cyst contents.

Ranula

- RANULA is a mucous retention cyst of the sublingual salivary gland and is seen as a brilliantly translucent cystic mass in the floor of the mouth.
- It occurs as a result of obstruction of the secretory duct of the sublingual salivary gland.
- The Latin *rana* means frog , and a ranula is so named because its appearance is sometimes compared to a frog's underbelly.
- Two types- simple ranula and plunging ranula.

Ranula

Clinical features

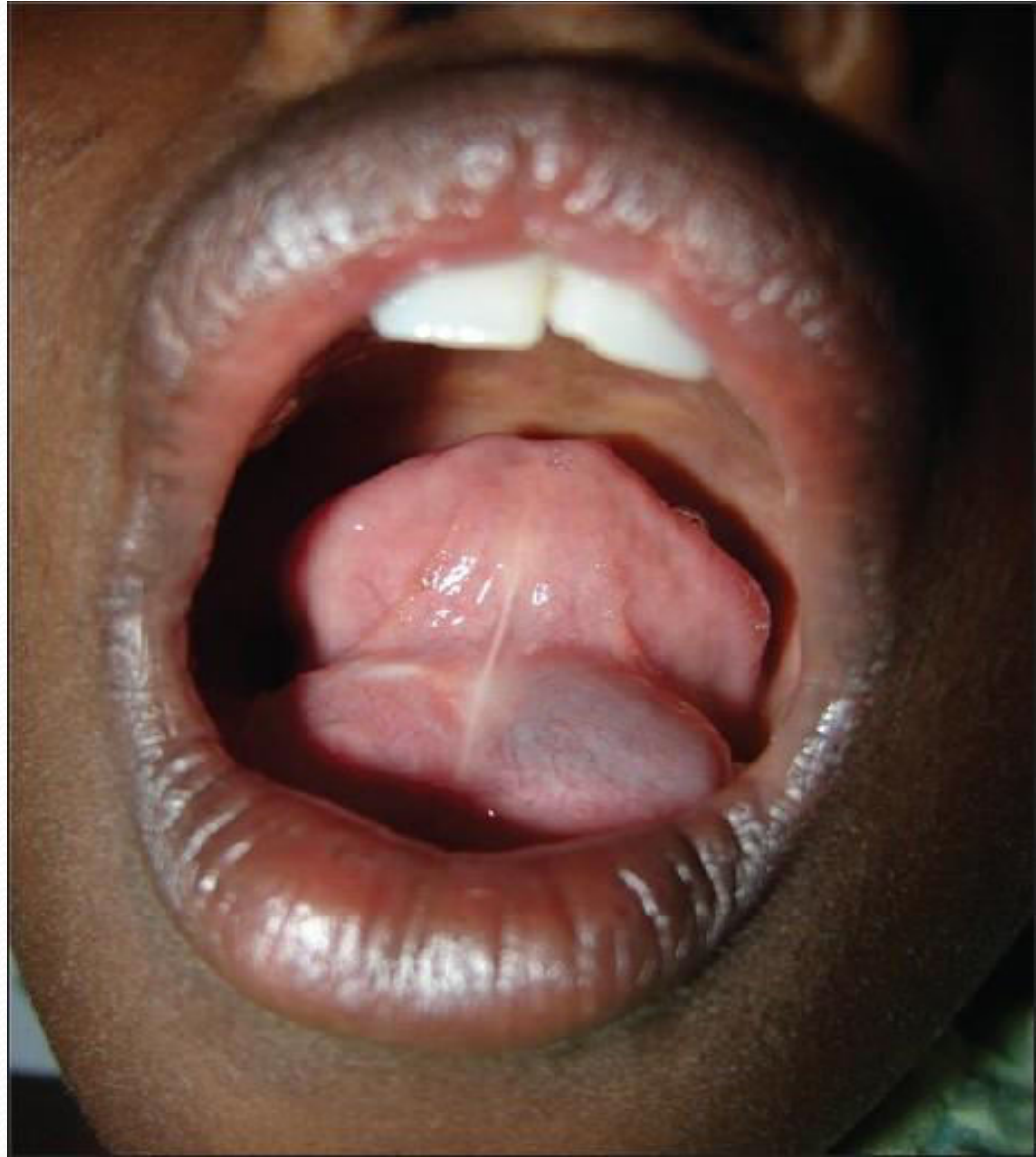
- Present with swelling in the floor of the mouth.
- Bluish in colour
- May cause dysarthria and difficulty in chewing.
- May also interfere with deglutition.
- Swelling is brilliantly positive for transillumination and is fluctuant.
- Patient may present with a neck swelling in case of plunging ranula.



Ranula

Treatment

- Marsupialization is treatment of choice.
- Excision of both the gland and the lesion.



Branchial cleft cyst

A **branchial cleft cyst** is an oval, movable cystic mass that develops under the skin in the neck between the sternocleidomastoid muscle and the pharynx.



Branchial cleft cyst

Pathology

- Cyst wall either squamous or columnar with lymphoid infiltrate, often with prominent germinal centers.
- The cyst may contain granular and keratinaceous cellular debris.
- Cholesterol crystals may be found in the fluid extracted from a branchial cyst.

Pathophysiology

- Branchial cleft cysts are remnants of embryonic development and result from a failure of obliteration of the branchial cleft.

Branchial cleft cyst

Types

- First branchial cleft cysts typically originate in the angle of mandible and extend to the external auditory canal.
- Second branchial cleft cysts are most common. They are found along the anterior border of the sternocleidomastoid, passes through the carotid bifurcation and into the Tonsillar pillar .
- Third branchial cleft cysts are rare and found in the lateral neck.

Branchial cleft cyst

Symptoms

- Painless swelling in upper and lateral part of neck.
- If infected it becomes painful.
- Most branchial cleft cysts are asymptomatic, but they may become infected.



Branchial cleft cyst

Signs

- Swelling is usually oval in shape but may be round and soft in consistency and cannot be reduced or compressed.
- Fluctuation test- positive.
- Transillumination may be negative.
- Commonly seen in the upper and lateral portion of the neck deep to the upper third of anterior border of the sternomastoid muscle and beneath the angle of mandible.
- An infected cyst can present like an abscess.

Branchial cleft cyst

Investigations

- FNAC-cholesterol crystals positive.
- Contrast x-ray (fistulogram)

Differential diagnosis

- ❖ Submandibular salivary gland swelling
- ❖ plunging ranula
- ❖ Cystic hygroma
- ❖ Cervical lymph node

Treatment

- Complete excision of the cyst or fistula.

Cystic hygroma/ lymphangoima

- Lymphangioma results from abnormal development of the lymphatic system with obstruction of lymphatic drainage from the affected area causing multicentric endothelial lining spaces.
- Cystic hygroma are large lymphangiomas found most commonly in children.



Cystic hygroma/ lymphangoima

Sites of cystic hygroma

- **Posterior triangle of neck-** commonest site. The swelling gradually extends upwards to the ear and down towards lower neck.
- **Cheek**
- **Tongue**
- **Base of tongue**
- **Supraglottic larynx**
- **Mediatinum**



Cystic hygroma/ lymphangoima

Symptoms

- Commonly seen in infants and early childhood.
- Presents with painless, slowly progressive lump or swelling commonly in the lateral aspect of the neck.

Signs

- Swelling often seen in the lower third of neck in posterior triangle.
- Size varies extremely, usually round in shape with smooth indistinct margin, with a smooth and lobulated surface.
- Swelling is often soft and cystic in consistency and it may increase in size on coughing (cough impulse)
- Transillumination test is brilliantly positive.

Cystic hygroma/ lymphangoima

Complications

- Stridor-due to tracheal shift and compression or Supraglottic involvement.
- Hemorrhage – causes painful enlargement of cystic hygroma.
- Infection can cause pain and rapid increase in size.

Investigations

- MRI / CT imaging- to assess the exact extent of the lesion and its relation to the vital structures.

Cystic hygroma/ lymphangoima

Treatment

- Surgery is the treatment of choice.
- Injection of sclerosing agents like absolute alcohol and / or steroids may be tried.

D/D

- ❖ *Branchial cleft cyst*
- ❖ *Ranula*
- ❖ *Lymphangoima*
- ❖ *Haemangioma*

Lymph node swelling

- Most common solid neck swelling.



Classification

(Lymph node swelling)

- **Inflammatory** – Acute non specific lymphadenitis-
Viral or bacterial.
Acute specific lymphadenitis-
Infectious mononucleosis.
Chronic nonspecific lymphadenitis-
Adenotonsillitis or orodental sepsis
Chronic specific lymphadenitis
like, Tuberculosis, syphilis leprosy etc.

Classification

(Lymph node swelling)

- Neoplastic

Primary- lymphoma.

Secondary- metastatic cervical node.

- As part of systemic conditions

Leukemia.

Drug reactions

Histocytosis

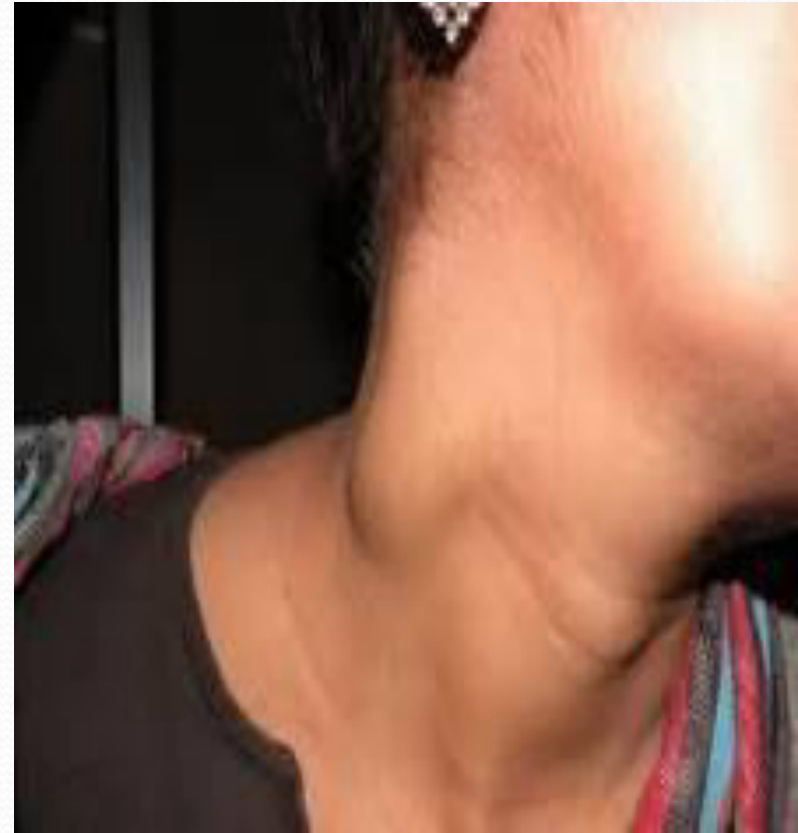
Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)

Autoimmune

Sarcoidosis

Tubercular lymphadenitis

- It is a chronic infection of the lymph nodes due to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and is characterized by presence of matted lymph nodes in the neck.



Pathological stages

- **Stage of adenitis:** the nodes are enlarged but discrete.
- **Stage of periadenitis:** causing matting of the nodes.
- **Stage of cold abscess formation:** this is due to central caseation within the node.
- **Stage of collar-stud abscess formation:** the cold abscess ruptures out of the deep fascia into the subcutaneous plane to give rise to dumb-bell shaped abscess cavity.
- **Stage of tubercular sinus:** the abscess ruptures through the skin causing fistula or sinus with undermined edges.

Tubercular lymphadenitis

Clinical features

- Lateral neck swelling/swellings.
- Often multiple/ bilateral
- Initially painless and gradually increases in size.
- Non-healing discharging ulcer
- Systemic symptoms like evening rise of temperature, night sweats, weight loss etc. may be present.
- Pallor and / or clubbing may be present
- Fever more in the evening may be present.
- Multiple matted nodes that are not freely mobile
- Skin involvement in the form of congestion, edema or ulcer/sinus may be seen
- Fluctuant abscess may be palpated
- Ulcer if present has characteristic undermining edges

Tubercular lymphadenitis

Investigations

- FNAC
- Biopsy
- Full blood count
- Chest x-ray to rule out pulmonary focus
- Mantoux test

Treatment

- Antitubercular treatment- Ethambutol, rifampicin, isoniazid and pyrazinamide for 9 to 12 months.
- Surgical excision – if residual nodes are present.



Thank
You!