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Large odontogenic tumor in Congo

An article by Baum, et al. “Unclear swelling in the region of a maxillary canine tooth” [1] caught our interest. A 14-year-old boy had developed an adenomatoid odontogenic tumor (AOT) without undergoing maxillofacial surgery. During an INTERPLAST-Germany mission [2] in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo, we operated on a young man with an advanced odontogenic tumor. Since we are confronted with fist-sized odontogenic tumors (mostly ameloblastoma of the mandible) every time we operate in Africa, where they grow out of control due to a lack of experienced surgeons, it may be of interest to our colleagues in developed countries to know which grotesque tumors are prevented by early surgery.