

## Tongue-biter syndrome in 2 dogs

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**Signalments:** Two cases of sublingual masses were referred to Veterinary medicine teaching hospital of Seoul national university from January to February 2008. Case 1 was a 8-year-old castrated male Maltese with a sublingual mass that had the history of chronic heart failure, chronic renal failure, tracheal collapse, bronchitis and masticatory disorders. Case 2 was a 9-year-old intact female Japanese Chin had bilateral sublingual masses with the history of chewing behavior.

**Results:** On dental examination, both cases had periodontitis with severe dental calculi(CI 3) covered all teeth, and the masses originated from sublingual tissues, not involved gingiva. On thoracic radiography, metastasis were not found in both cases. The masses were diagnosed as tongue-biter syndrome, and mass resection were performed with dental prophylaxis to each case. On histopathologic evaluation, the mass of case 1 was diagnosed as severe acute multifocal suppurative and ulcerative stomatitis and case 2 was proliferative change. The masses were not relapsed in both cases, but sialocele was occurred in case 2, and marsupialization was performed.

**Clinical relevance:** These cases suggest tongue-biter syndrome should be differentiated from the oral tumor and ranula through the clinical signs and histopathologic findings, and care must be taken when the mass was close proximity to salivary structures.

**Key words:** tongue-biter syndrome, sublingual mass, dog

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