



IT'S YOUR CASE

Species: Rabbit

Breed: Dwarf Rabbit

Sex: Female Neutered

Age: 5 years, 1 month

Clinical History:

Presenting signs: inappetence

On clinical exam, there is a palpable swelling of the ventral mandibular area.

Details of study and technical comments: pre- and post-contrast CT series of the head, processed in bone and soft tissue algorithms, with 1 mm slice thickness, are available for interpretation.

Diagnostic interpretation:

- There is good apposition between the maxillary and mandibular incisors
- There is mild-to-moderate overgrowth of all the maxillary cheek teeth, whose reserve crowns extend dorsal to a reference line drawn between the cranial nasal bone and the occipital protuberance (fig. 1), and whose distal ends point outwards to the soft tissues of the mouth (fig. 2, left)
- The left cheek teeth have an occlusal margin ventral to the reference line between the rostral margin of the hard palate and ventral 1/3 of the tympanic bulla
- Mild to moderate overgrowth affects the mandibular cheek teeth, whose crowns present spiky ends (fig. 2, right); at the level of their respective reserve crowns, the mandibles present a slight deformation of the profile and thinning of the cortices, without osteolysis (fig. 3)
- There is a focal increase of the periodontal space at the level of the third right mandibular cheek tooth (fig. 4, left)
- Overall, the reserve crowns of the teeth are sclerotic
- The mandibular lymph nodes are slightly enlarged
- There is hyperattenuating material in the right external ear canal (fig. 4, right)



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This report is based on the available history and radiographic interpretation only and not on a physical examination of the patient. It must therefore only be interpreted by a currently licensed and registered veterinary surgeon responsible for the care of this patient.

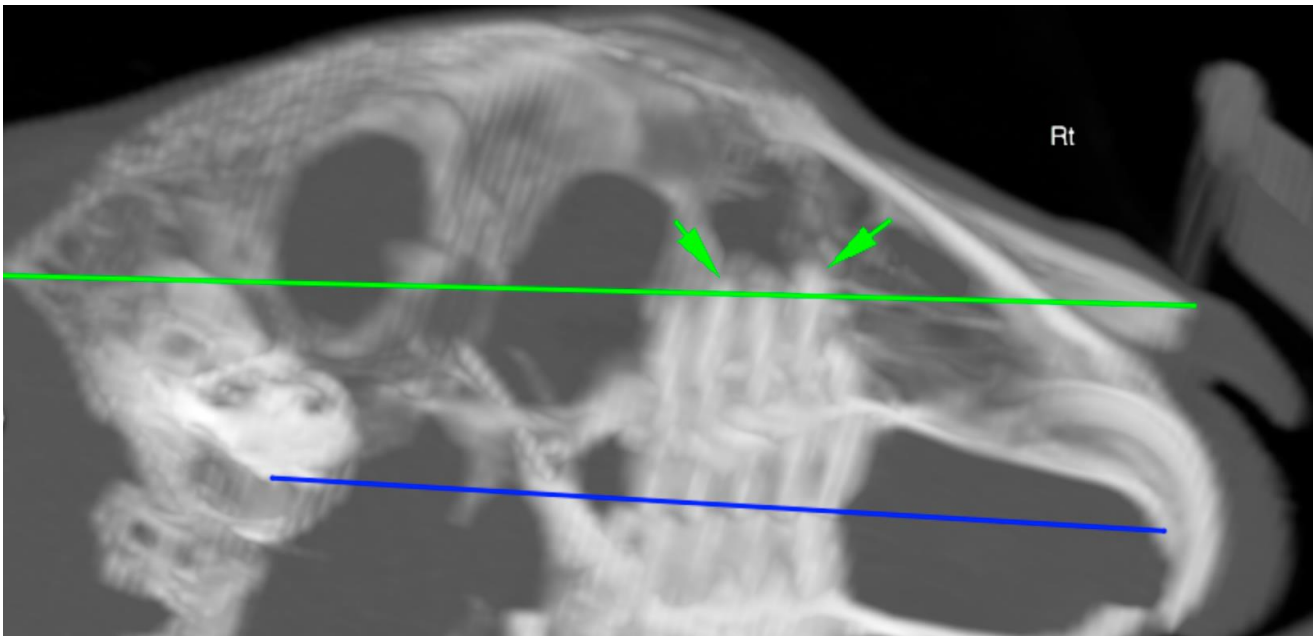


Figure 1

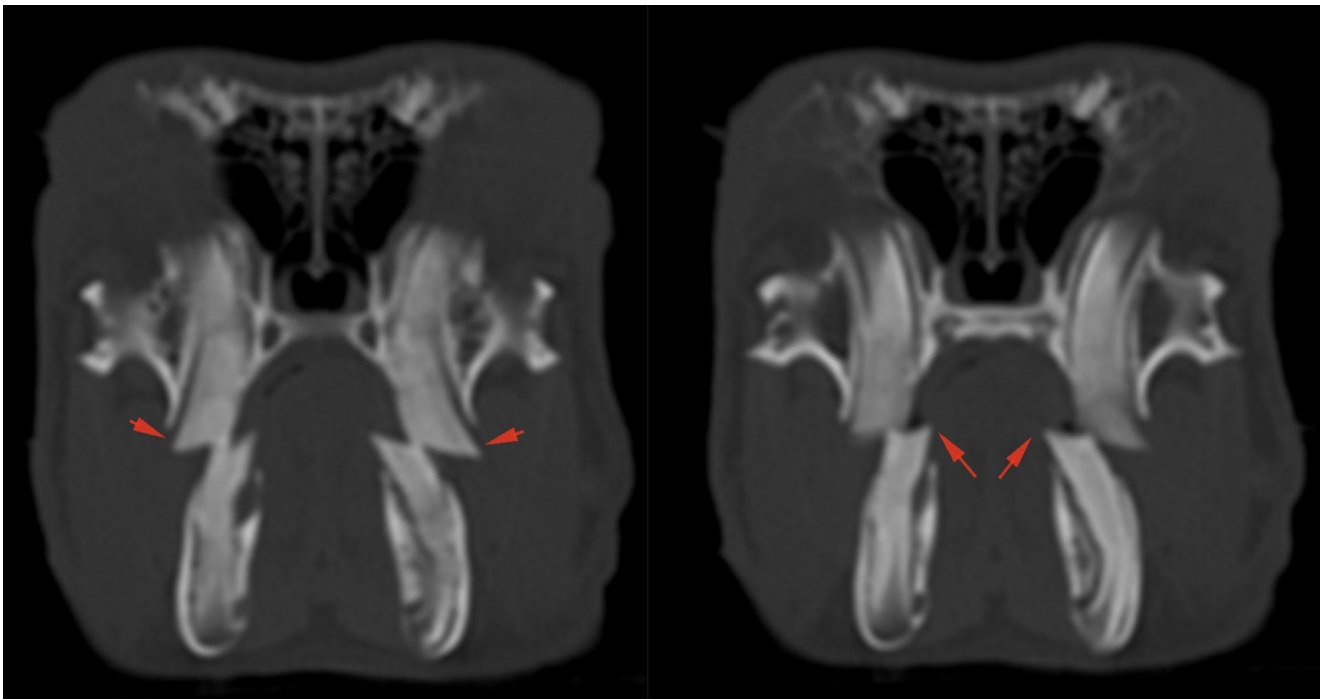


Figure 2



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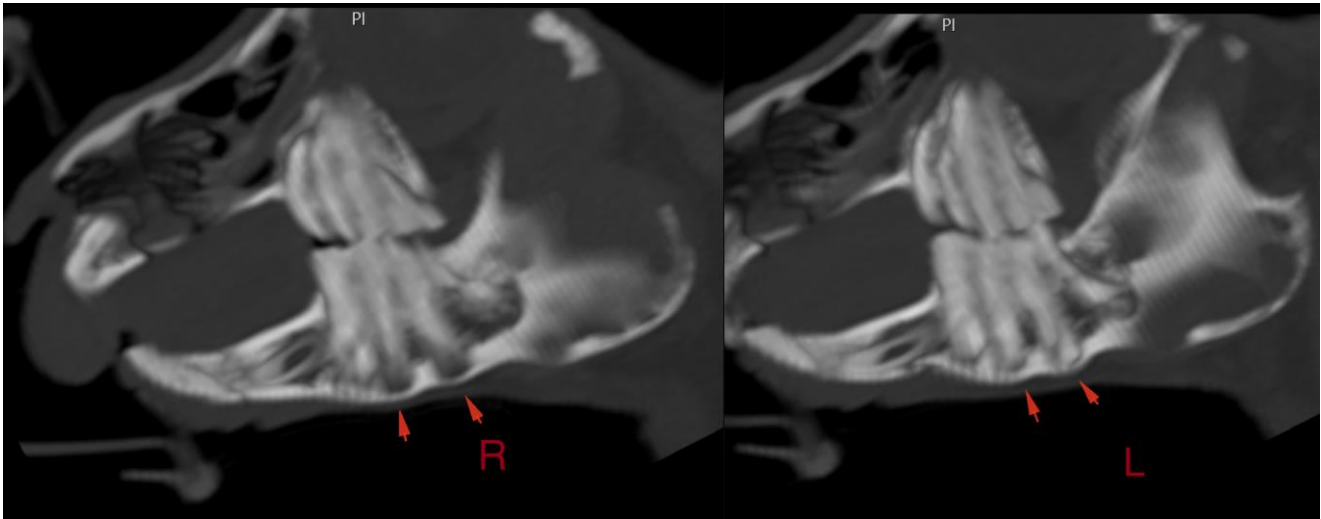


Figure 3

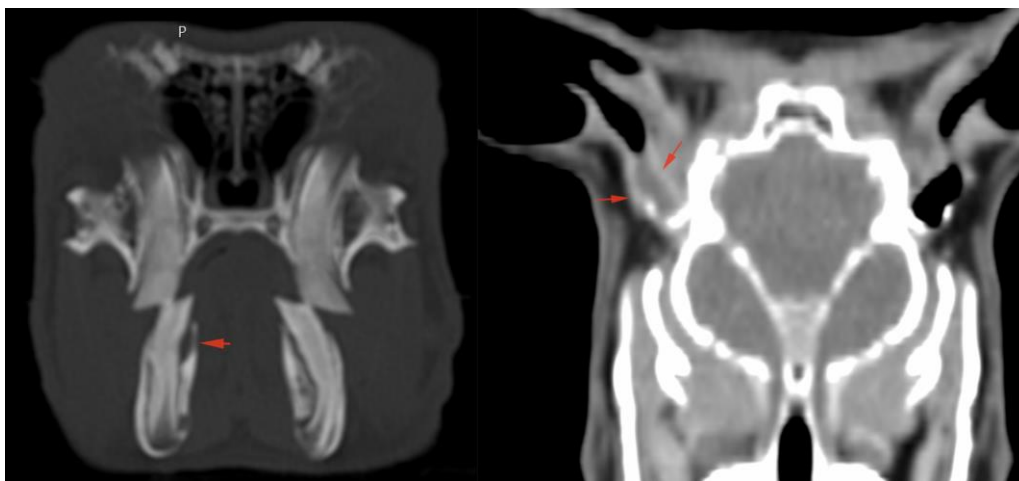


Figure 4

Conclusions:

- Mild-to-moderate overgrowth of the maxillary and mandibular cheek teeth, and atrophy of the mandibular bones associated with the respective reserve crowns
- Focal area of increased periodontal space around the third right mandibular cheek tooth (consider infectious / inflammatory process, or anatomical variant)
- Mild mandibular lymphadenomegaly (reactive, most likely)
- Right external otitis

Additional comments:

The changes in this patient can justify the clinical signs; the lingual and buccal spikes could be contributing to sufficient discomfort to influence appetite. Alternatively, the animal is developing gut dysmotility secondary to the dental disease, leading to reduced appetite.

The palpable lump you noticed on exam is likely the 3rd mandibular reserve crown protruding beyond the mandibular cortex.



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