

# Frontoethmoidal mucocele presenting with the appearance of Pott's puffy tumour

Ramazan O Onder<sup>1</sup>

Cemre Akdeniz<sup>1</sup>

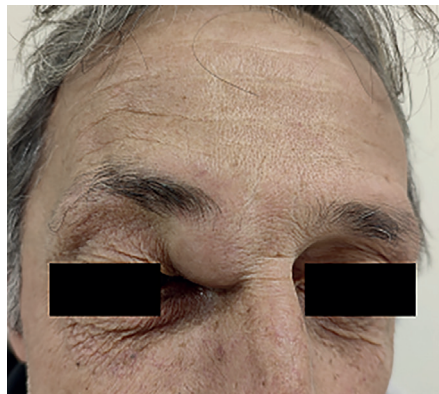
Alptekin Tosun<sup>1</sup>

Author details can be found at the end of this article

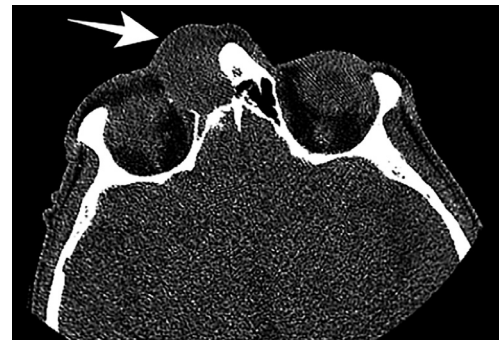
Correspondence to:

Cemre Akdeniz;  
drcebreakdeniz@gmail.com

A 62-year-old male patient presented with complaints of swelling (**Figure 1**) at the top of the right eye that had increased in size for about 1 week. The patient had a history of frontal sinusitis. Superficial ultrasonography showed a cystic collection adjacent to the frontal sinus. Paranasal sinus computed tomography was planned with a preliminary diagnosis of Pott's puffy tumour. This revealed a cystic lesion extending under the skin and through the frontoethmoidal recess in the upper part of the upper medial sinus, causing expansive lytic erosion of the bone structure in the right part of the ethmoid sinus (**Figure 2**). The appearance was evaluated radiologically as a frontoethmoidal mucocele and surgery was planned. Pathology showed that this was a cystic structure covered with respiratory epithelium and filled with mucoid material.



**Figure 1.** Swelling in the upper part of the right eye, forming Pott's puffy tumour appearance.



**Figure 2.** Mucocele causing extensive lytic erosion of the bony structure in the right part of the ethmoid sinus and extending into the frontoethmoidal recess on computed tomography.

Pott's puffy tumour is a non-neoplastic complication of acute sinusitis. It is characterised by a primarily subgaleal collection, subperiosteal abscess and osteomyelitis, originating from the frontal sinus and spreading to the adjacent frontal bone (Masterson and Leong, 2009). The similarities in the presentation of frontoethmoidal mucocele and Pott's puffy tumour may cause the former to be misdiagnosed, so it is important to understand the radiological differences between these conditions.

## Author details

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Medicine, Department of Radiology, Giresun University, Giresun, Turkey

## Reference

Masterson L, Leong P. Pott's puffy tumour: a forgotten complication of frontal sinus disease. *Oral Maxillofac Surg.* 2009;13(2):115–117. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10006-009-0155-7>

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