Cysts and Glands of the Head and Neck Region

Kurzfassung: Cysts and Glands
Different cysts and cystic structures exist in the head-and-neck region. They can be congenital or acquired. Congenital cysts include lateral and median neck-cysts. Additionally, cystic structures like ranulas may occur. Lymphangiomas – developing in the fetus – may also simulate cystic malformations. Inflammatory and tumorous cysts are in the group of acquired cystic structures and can be differentiated from each other. Inflammatory cystic structures include abscesses and postinflammatory cysts such as retention cysts. These should be differentiated from tumorous cystic structures, which may be either of benign or malignant origin. Cystic structures may also occur in the salivary glands of the head-and-neck region.

In most cases the first method of imaging is ultrasonography. If the diagnosis is not clear, contrast-enhanced MDCT or MRI may be used. In very rare cases hybrid imaging such as PET-CT or PET-MR may yield to a correct diagnosis and in the case of malignancy offer the advantage of whole body staging.

Imaging of the Temporal Bone

Kurzfassung: Imaging of the Temporal Bone
The anatomy of the larynx and hypopharynx and their intimate relationship will be reviewed, especially the key facts for cancer imaging and the pathways of tumor spread of the different subsites of both hypopharynx and larynx. The values of imaging in general and CT, MRI and PET/CT in particular will be discussed. Aim of this session is to provide a checklist for the radiologist to choose the optimal imaging modality for the individual patient, to know the anatomy and to get familiar with the questions that need to be answered in the interdisciplinary tumor board before determining the treatment strategy.

Lernziele: 1. learn the anatomy
2. choose appropriate imaging modality
3. know pathways of tumor spread