



Facial swelling and tenderness

Jerzy K Pawlak, MBBS, MSc, PhD, is a general practitioner, Winnipeg, Canada.

Case history

A 65 year old man presents with acute onset of swelling and tenderness on the right side of his face and ear.



Question 1

What is the diagnosis?

Question 2

What is the differential diagnosis?

Question 3

What investigations should be performed?

ANSWERS TO JULY BRAIN TEASER

Answer 1

Baker's cyst, synovial herniation into the popliteal fossa.

Answer 2

Usually secondary to an intra-articular problem such as osteoarthritis or a degenerative meniscus, particularly if the underlying problem is associated with a chronic synovial effusion.

Answer 3

Excision of the cyst is seldom indicated unless any underlying condition can be treated. However, with any excision the cyst is likely to recur.



Send your answers to arrive by 20 August. A prize of 12 months subscription to 'eTG complete' valued at \$240 will be donated by Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd to the first correct entry drawn. The winner will be notified by mail and the answers published in the September issue.

Email entries to: afp@racgp.org.au
 OR mail to: August Brain Teaser
 Australian Family Physician Palmerston
 Crescent South Melbourne
 Victoria 3205



Therapeutic Guidelines

Freecall 1800 061 260

The winner of the July Brain teaser is Dr Harry Preston, Doncaster, Vic