

Recommendations for Referral regarding a Neck Mass

1. If the neck mass appears to be cervical adenitis and is inflamed (red, tender, or larger than 2 centimeters) then a course of oral antibiotics should be administered.
2. If the mass does not respond to oral antibiotics or if the overlying skin is a red-violet color, this may represent a non-tuberculous mycobacteria infection.
3. If the mass is not inflamed, either in the midline or anterior to the stencleidomastoid, this may represent a congenital cyst.

Suggested Testing or Imaging

1. For any of the above, an ultrasound of the neck should be done, preferably through OHSU Doernbecher radiology. If not done through OHSU Doernbecher, the images must be put into the OHSU radiology system.
2. An enlarged lymph node for greater than 6 months should have a CBC with a differential, Monospot, Toxoplasma gondii , Bartonella henselae.
3. Thyroid function test and Nuclear Medicine thyroid scan are not needed for midline neck masses.

Clinic Contact Information

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Doernbecher patient consult line for referring providers: **503 346-0644** or **888 346-0644**.