

## Clinical Image

# Facial Swelling in an HIV Positive Patient

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**Received:** October 20, 2014; **Accepted:** October 27, 2014; **Published:** October 28, 2014

**Keywords**

HIV; AIDS; Kaposi sarcoma; Lymph edema

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A 27-year old HIV-positive female presented to our rural South African hospital with a one month history of facial swelling. She was started on HAART 9 days previously. Her CD4 at time of initiation was 157 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>. On examination she had profound edema of the face, in particular the periorbital areas, hyperpigmentation of the eye lids and the tip of the nose. On second examination bluish-purple skin lesions were found on the hard palatum and gingivae. Biopsy confirmed the diagnosis Kaposi Sarcoma (KS) and the patient was referred for systemic chemotherapy to our referral hospital. With this clinical image we would like to remind doctors and dentists to always examine the oral cavity in HIV-positive patients with facial lymph edema, as in approximately 70% of HIV-seropositive subjects with KS this area will be affected and early treatment can be lifesaving.

