36 y/o female with a right sided mandibular mass

Edward Gillis, DO
Parotitis
CECT Axial: Heterogeneously enhancing right parotid gland
CECT Coronal: Heterogeneously enhancing and enlarged right parotid gland. Minimal surrounding fat stranding (blue arrow)
Parotitis

Imaging Features

- Enlarged, enhancing parotid gland
  - Abscess – Ring enhancement
  - May see ductal dilatation if obstruction from stone
  - Viral – Enlarged and mildly enhancing.
    - 75% bilateral
    - Occasionally enhancement and enlargement of submandibular and sublingual glands as well
- Fat stranding
  - Bacterial: significant inflammatory stranding of fat
  - Viral: mild inflammatory fat stranding
Parotitis

Etiology

- Bacterial
  - Ascending infection
    - S. aureus in 50-90%
  - Ductal obstruction
- Viral
  - Mumps (paramyxovirus) most common
  - Influenza, parainfluenza, Coxsackie A and B

- Parotid is most commonly inflamed salivary gland due to absence of bacteriostatic mucin in its secretions
  - Acute onset pain, tenderness, warmth, and swelling - Bacterial
  - Viral prodrome followed by parotid pain, earache, and trismus. Swelling without much erythema or warmth