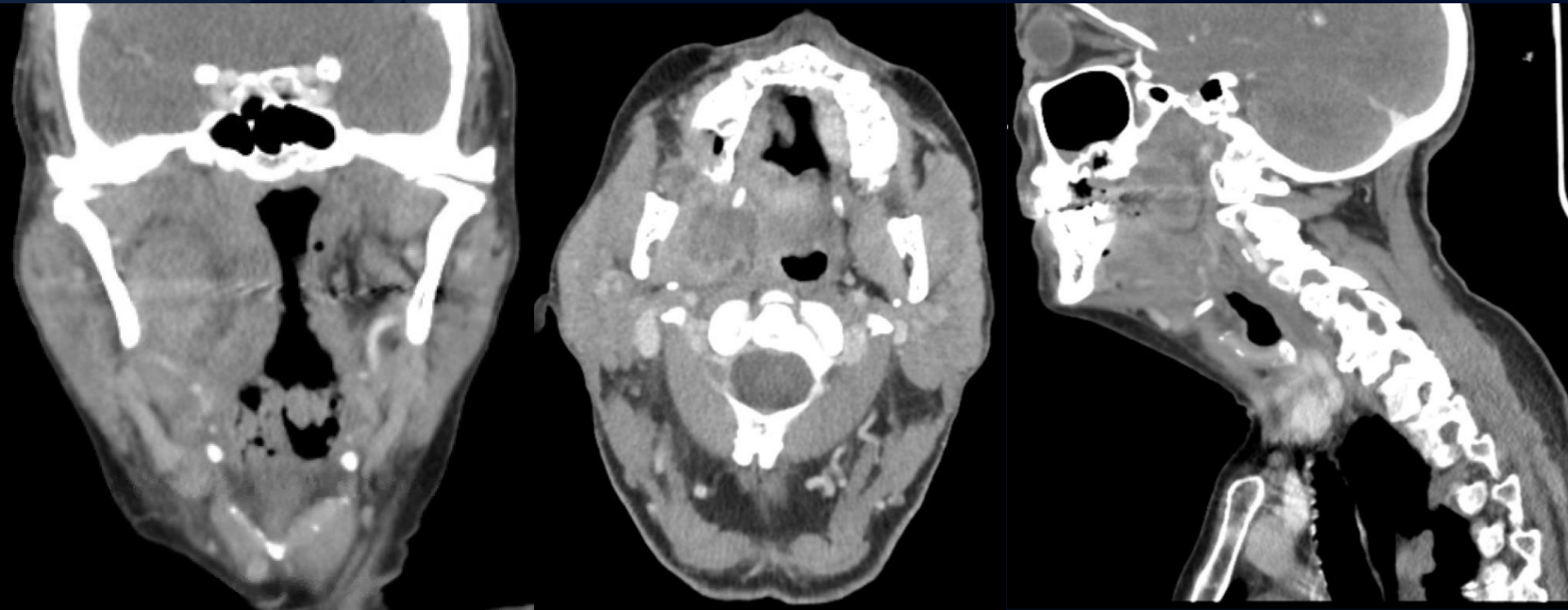


70-year-old female with a 1-week
history of progressive trismus,
dysphagia and dysphonia

Xiang Lin, MS3

CT Maxillofacial

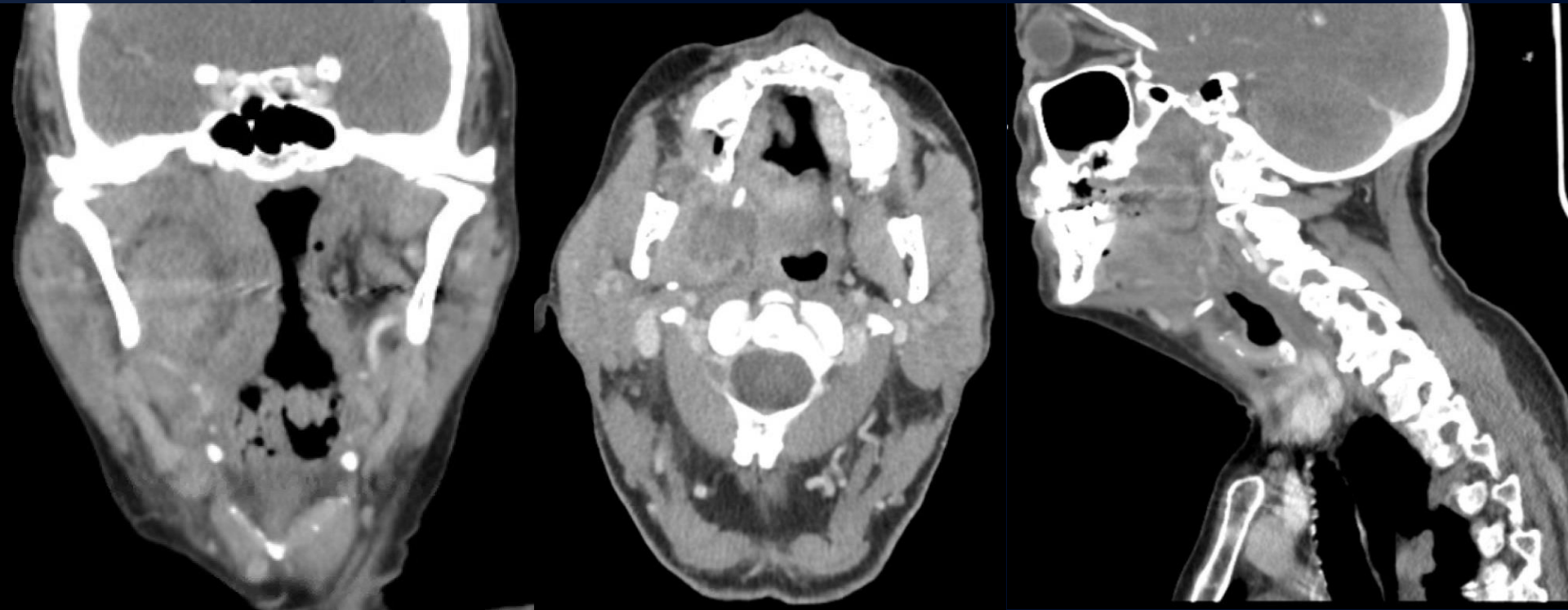


A large, stylized oak leaf graphic in a dark blue color, positioned on the left side of the slide. It features detailed vein patterns and a lobed edge.

?

Pterygomandibular / Lateral Pharyngeal Abscess

CT Maxillofacial



Ring enhancing right lesion in the pterygomandibular / lateral pharyngeal space
Leftward deviation of the airway due to mass effect

Pterygomandibular / Lateral Pharyngeal Abscess

- Often evolve from dental periapical abscesses which go on to perforate the periosteum
 - May evolve from sialadenitis of infected submandibular/lingual salivary glands
 - May be from iatrogenic dental work such as this patient
 - May also evolve from untreated tonsillitis
 - May be seen secondary to malignancy or trauma
- **Imaging Findings**
 - Often a ring enhancing lesion within one of the deep spaces of the neck
 - +/- loculations
 - Lateral pharyngeal abscesses have increased associated with airway deviation

References

- Darshane S, Groom P, Charters P. Responsive Contingency Planning: a novel system for anticipated difficulty in airway management in dental abscess. *Br J Anaesth*. 2007 Dec;99(6):898-905. doi: 10.1093/bja/aem302. Epub 2007 Oct 24. PMID: 17959593.
- Dufour X, Gohler C, Bedier A, Ferrie JC, Oriot D, Fontanel JP, Klossek JM. Abscès rétro- et latéropharyngés chez l'enfant [Retropharyngeal and lateral pharyngeal abscesses in children]. *Ann Otolaryngol Chir Cervicofac*. 2004 Dec;121(6):327-33. French. doi: 10.1016/s0003-438x(04)95530-2. PMID: 15711471.
- Boucher C, Dorion D, Fisch C. Retropharyngeal abscesses: a clinical and radiologic correlation. *J Otolaryngol*. 1999 Jun;28(3):134-7. PMID: 10410343.