FALSE POSITIVE RESULTS OF SINUS X RAYS

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Abstract

Mucosal thickening is commonly seen on x Rays of e paranasal sinuses taken in the ENT department. This sometimes leads to a sinus washout, which is clear, even though, the x Ray or CAT were strongly suggestive of sinus disease. Our study examined the prevalence of sinus x Ray anomalies in a none ENT complaints cases, having x Rays for conditions other than possible sinus disease randomized groups of those anomalies were subjected to CAT or endoscopic sinus examinations to show how many of these patients would have positive findings. Since they are asymptomatic. The study suggests that up to 48.6% of asymptomatic cases may have sinus x ray appearances consistent with sinus disease.

Introduction

Many forms of investigations of sinus disease have been undertaken in the past including, transillumination, x ray, ultrasound, CAT and recently endoscopic examination a part of the last none have proved to be superior in detecting patients which have actual sinus pathology.

The frequently seen report of x ray sinus, mucosal thickening, in some practices leads to at least sinus washout to find it clear, in spite of previous studies which have shown poor overall correlation of x ray appearances and operative finding.

Havas et al. (1988) in a study of 666 computerized scans of the head showed sinus abnormalities in 42.5 per cent. With such a large