OBJECTIVES:
Osteolipomas of the head and neck are extremely rare. We report the case of an osteolipoma independent of bone tissue localizing in the left supraclavicular fossa. The objective of the study is to review the literature, differential diagnosis and pathologic findings associated with osteolipomas of the head and neck.

METHODS:
This is a 58-year-old female who presented with over a six month history of a non-tender, fixed mass in the left supraclavicular area. The mass itself had areas of mixed firmness, varying from soft through firm. Computed tomography revealed numerous areas of calcification; differential diagnosis at that time included lipoma versus liposarcoma versus dermoid. FNA was non-conclusive. The patient was subsequently brought for excision of this mass.

RESULTS:
One large mass was found in the supraclavicular fossa overlying the sternocleidomastoid muscle. With the aid of electrocautery the mass was carefully removed from all surrounding structures which were noted to be extremely adherent. A follow up did not show recurrence of the lesion nor any evidence of neurological deficits after excision. Pathology revealed that the mass to be an osteolipoma.

CONCLUSIONS:
We report a case of osteolipoma in the supraclavicular fossa. Osteolipomas are extremely rare histologic variants of lipomas believed to arise after long-standing lipomas undergo osseous metaplasia. There are fewer than 10 reported cases in the literature over the last decade. Clinicians must realize that osteolipomas in the head and neck region may mimic other neoplasms, both in clinical and radiologic presentation. Local excision is the treatment of choice.

REFERENCES