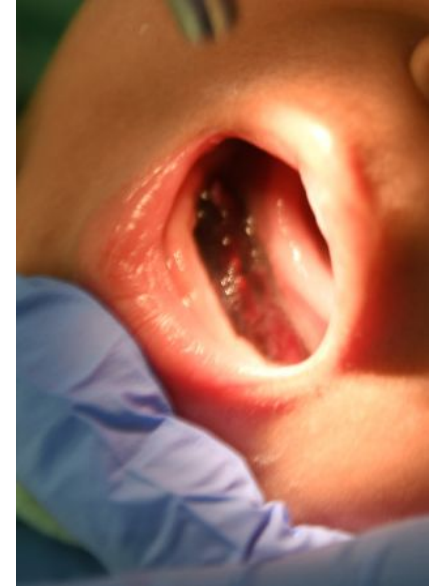


# Presenting Case

10-month-old presents with sublingual hematoma. When parents are asked, they deny any associated history of trauma. They reported he began to have trouble eating and drinking approximately one day ago. In general, sublingual hematomas in children are relatively rare from accidental mechanisms and can be indicative of inflicted intrusive trauma to the mouth such as from forced bottle feeding or from forced object intrusion.



# Additional information to gather

- What does he do from a motor development standpoint?
- Who cares for him and where?
- Does the provider see any other associated injuries to the mouth or face (especially to the facial cheeks or jaw line which are higher areas of concern)?
- For preverbal children, when injuries are unexplained or poorly explained and/or do not fit with the developmental abilities of the child, a report to CPS and potentially a child abuse specialist (if available) should be strongly considered especially in children less than 1 year of age or those children of any age with severe injury.

# What to do next

- Follow guidelines to appropriately report suspected abuse or neglect.
- CPS can facilitate obtaining interviews of family members, assessing the home environment, contacting medical professionals to aid in the evaluation of injury, and ensure safe placement of the child during the investigation, if need be.