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Figure 1. Gadolinium enhanced MRI of the middle finger of right hand: The axial (A) and coronal (B) MRI demonstrate a small ovoid, intensely enhancing soft tissue mass located at the posterior border of the distal phalanx.

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A 32-year-old female presented to the surgeon with history of recurrent excruciating pain at the top of middle finger of her right hand for the last two years. There was no history of trauma or infection. Clinically there were no features of cervical spondylosis or carpal tunnel syndrome and the patient did not complain of numbness in the distribution of the median nerve. Physical examination was unremarkable except for local tenderness. No nodule or discoloration of the skin was noticed.

Plain x-rays of the hand were normal. A gadolinium-enhanced MRI of the middle finger of the right hand was then performed (Figure 1, A and B).

1. What abnormality is seen in Figure 1, A and B?
2. What is your diagnosis?
3. What is the treatment for this condition?

(see answer on page 491)