INTRODUCTION: Developmental odontogenic jaw cysts are generally connected with impacted or unerupted teeth. The conservative treatment options of these types of cysts will be presented.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: In this study 17 cases operated in Süleyman Demirel and Selcuk Universities Faculty of Dentistry were included. The data of the cases were documented with respect to age, sex, localization, symptoms, presence of unerupted teeth on panoramic radiographs. The cysts were treated with marsupialization with an obturator made of acrylic resin in 9 patients and a tube drain in 8 patients to keep the window open.

RESULTS: Marsupialization was evaluated as extremely effective in 15 patients, the cysts completely disappeared and the permanent teeth were erupted, in 2 patients the cysts disappeared but the teeth were not erupted.

CONCLUSIONS: Enucleation, marsupialization or their combination are the conventional treatment options of the jaw cysts. Large cysts may localise nearby the important anatomical structures or may involve unerupted permanent teeth. These kind of cysts may be treated with marsupialization in order to protect these anatomical structures or to allow the eruption of the permanent teeth.

Marsupialization should be considered as an effective conservative treatment method of the jaw cysts during mixed dentition in the childhood.

Key Words: children, conservative, dentigerous cyst, impacted teeth, marsupialization.