A 25-year-old Malay lady who was six month pregnant presented with a three day history of fever, malaise, odynophagia, dysphagia, trismus and change in voice. On clinical examination, she was dehydrated, mouth breathing and had foetid breath. She also had ‘hot potato-sounding’ speech. Examination of her oral cavity revealed oedematous and erythematous soft palate with inferior and medial displacement of the tonsils (Panel). There were also bilateral, solitary and tender jugulodigastric nodes.

**What is the diagnosis?**

**Answer:** refer to page 156

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