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Canalicular Adenoma of Palate -A Rare Case and Review

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ABSTRACT

Canalicular adenoma is a rare benign tumor of the minor salivary glands that is the most prevalent in older adults (mean age, 60 years). The upper lip is the most commonly affected site, followed by the buccal mucosa and palate. It presents as a nodular lesion without a tendency for recurrence. Here, we describe a case of canalicular adenoma presenting as a nodular, painful mass in the left side of a 62-year-old woman. Fine needle aspiration biopsy yielded inconclusive results but excluded malignancy. The lesion was enucleated, and a definitive diagnosis of canalicular adenoma was established by histologically. No signs of recurrence were noted at the 22-month follow-up examination.

Key words: Palate, Adenoma, Salivary gland neoplasm, Canalicular Adenoma

INTRODUCTION

The canalicular adenoma is an uncommon benign salivary gland tumour, almost exclusively occurring in intraoral glands¹. The upper lip is the most common site accounting for 70% of all reported sites followed by buccal mucosa then 2nd to palate². The peak incidence of occurrence is 6th and 7th decade. It predominantly occurs in females³. Commonly palatal canalicular adenoma shows the features of lack of encapsulation, multi

lobularity, presence of ulceration due to trauma, may be mistaken as a malignant lesion⁴. Microscopically they are well circumscribed lesion composed of monomorphic epithelial cells frequently columnar in appearance and arranged in a bilayered strands and ducts in a loose and rather fibrous stroma⁵. Lesions recommended to excise conservatively, recurrence of later occurrence of new tumour in different site from the primary mass have also been described mainly

in multifocal lesion. However it would be prudent to keep the patient under review. In this paper we reported a case of canalicular adenoma involving the least common site – palate, treatment of same.

CASE REPORT

A 62 year old female patient reported with complained of swelling in the left side hard palate for the past 3 months. On examination a soft fluctuant swelling measuring roughly about 1: 1.5 cm approximately was observed on left side of hard palate in relation to, mucosa over the swelling was normal (fig1). Occlusal (fig2) and panoramic radiographs (fig3) revealed no bone destruction. Incisional biopsy diagnosis given by them was palatal adenoma. Tumour excised completely without removing overlying mucosa (fig4) and histopathological examinations confirms the diagnosis of canalicular adenoma. The patient is free of recurrence from last 22 months.

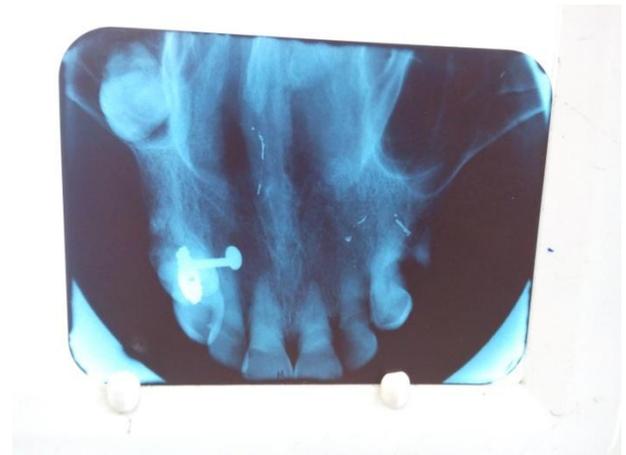


Fig 2. Occlusal view revealing no bone involvement



Fig 3, Opg of patient



Fig 1. Palatal Swelling Left Side



Fig 4. Surgicle excision of lesion

DISCUSSION

Canalicular adenoma is a benign neoplasm of the salivary glands. The most common site of occurrence is the upper lip followed by the buccalmucosa. Its occurrence in palate is very uncommon⁵. Parvizi et al had reported a palatal canalicular adenoma which had extensive ulceration, necrosis with bluish and erythematous discolouration⁶. Present case had no signs of ulceration and the surface was smooth. Ellis and Auclair analyzed 121 cases of Canalicular adenoma and that found only four (3.3%) arise in the palate³. (Ellis) Bauer and Bauer used the term Canalicular adenoma in 1953; Bhaskar and Weinmann were the first to use the term to describe this lesion⁵. The Canalicular adenoma was once considered to be a type of “monomorphic adenoma”.¹⁹⁷⁰ Rauch and colleagues classified benign salivary gland neoplasms into two broad categories, monomorphic and pleomorphic adenoma. Canalicular adenoma and basal cell adenoma were once considered to be a type of monomorphic adenoma. 1972 WHO histological classification of salivary gland tumors puts them under other type of monomorphic adenoma⁷. Among the “monomorphic adenomas” there are following varieties; warthin tumour (or) papillary cyst adenoma lymphomatosum, oncocytoma or oxyphillic adenoma. In 1981 Batsakis and Brannon had given histological classification of monomorphic adenoma⁸.

1. Tumours of terminal duct origin

A. Basal cell adenoma

B. Canalicular adenoma

2. Tumours of terminal or striated duct origin

A. Sebaceous adenoma

B. Sebaceous lymph adenoma

3. Tumours of striated duct origin

A. Oncocytoma

B. Papillary cyst adenoma lymphomatosum

4. Tumours of excretory duct origin

Sialadenoma papilliferum or inverted ductal papilloma.

The basal cell adenoma and canalicular adenoma have relatively specific clinical and histopathological features, categorizing this tumour under monomorphic adenoma is ambiguous^{9,10}. Microscopic features of the Canalicular adenoma fairly mimicks membranous type of basal cell adenoma but it is insignificant since both are benign lesion with no remarkable recurrence rate. Recurrence is rare in case of excision of tumour along with gland irrespective of multilobularity of the tumor clinically or histopathologically¹¹. Our case shows no evidence of cellular pleomorphism, single lobularity and no other dysplastic features, to conclude it's a clear cut case of Canalicular adenoma of palate, recommended for excision. So complete removal of palatal growth after reflecting palatal flap was done. patient closely followed up although recurrence is rare in single lobular benign canalicular adenoma.

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