CARTILAGINOUS CHORISTOMA OF LINGUAL REGION - A CASE REPORT

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

Choristoma is a proliferation of normal tissue in an ectopic site. Choristoma with exclusively chondroid tissue proliferation is called cartilaginous choristoma.1,2 These may be due to developmental or as a result of local trauma. In choristoma, usually it composed of polymorphic tissue such as fatty tissue, bony and fibrous tissue. The choristoma with only cartilaginous component is very rare in the tongue. Only few cases of pure cartilaginous choristoma are published in the literatures. It should be differentiated from chondrosarcoma, which is a malignant neoplasm. As the literature says, the possibility of the malignancy arising from it, careful histopathological examination is necessary to confirm the diagnosis and additional studies such as IHC can be done to rule out the malignancies. In our case, 70 years male presented with pure cartilaginous choristoma of tongue, which is very rare.

KEYWORDS

Cartilaginous, Choristoma, Tongue.


BACKGROUND

Choristoma is a proliferation of normal tissue in an ectopic site. Choristoma with exclusively chondroid tissue proliferation is called cartilaginous choristoma. These may be due to developmental or as a result of local trauma. Pure cartilaginous choristoma in the oral cavity soft tissues is very rare. The most prevalent site is the tongue than the other site in the oral cavity. In our case, 70 years male presented with pure cartilaginous choristoma of tongue, which is very rare.

Case History

In our case, a 70-year-old male presented clinically with a single, hard mass of size 4.5 x 3.5 cms in the right lateral border of the tongue. The swelling is present from one year. No ulceration or discharge over the swelling. Initial diagnosis made was papilloma tongue. Excision was done and specimen was sent for the histopathological examination.3,4

Microscopically, this case composed of nests of benign round chondrocytes with small nuclei in a hyaline matrix under the squamous epithelium and the muscle layers. There is no necrosis, mitosis and pleomorphism of the chondrocytes and there is also no infiltration into the surrounding tissues, the features of malignancies which are ruled out. Because the chondrosarcoma is the most important differential diagnosis that should be ruled out and pure cartilaginous choristoma should be confirmed with the histopathological examination.

Figure 1. 5x Photomicrograph show Nests of Benign Chondrocytes

Figure 2. 10x Photomicrograph show Nests of Benign Chondrocytes

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DISCUSSION
Lingual choristomas usually may have multiple tissues including adipose tissues, bony tissues, fibrous tissues, cartilage, git tissues and brain tissues. Pure cartilaginous choristoma in the oral cavity soft tissues is very rare. The most prevalent site is the tongue than the other site in the oral cavity.

Scivelli et al in 2005,5 published a first case of cartilaginous choristoma of tongue. The origin of the pure cartilaginous choristoma is of controversial one. According to Takeda in 1987 - it may be due to metaplastic origin, receiving the traumatic or other physical stimulations at the site. Some other authors suggests it may be due to the proliferation of heterotopic foetal cartilage remnants.6,7,8

As the possibilities of rare malignant transformation of cartilaginous choristoma and it should be differentiated from the malignant neoplasm chondrosarcoma, careful histopathological examination of the case and close followup of the patient is very essential.

In this case, histopathology gives a definitive diagnosis of pure cartilaginous choristoma. As the chondrocytes are benign, no malignant features are seen. Hence, IHC study is not done and the patient is under close followup; still there are no complaints of the patient.

CONCLUSION
Pure cartilaginous choristoma is rare in tongue. It should be confirmed with histopathological examination and if necessary additional immunohistochemical studies should be done to exclude the possible malignant transformation and the malignant neoplasm chondrosarcoma of tongue.

REFERENCES