

dysplasia lesions occurring in the maxillary sinuses; furthermore studies are needed to better define the surgical management of craniofacial fibrous dysplasia, considering that classically highly variability of age, extension and long-term recurrence.

### Osseous-cartilaginous choristoma: a rare case in the palatal mucosa

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**Aim:** Choristoma is a cohesive tumorlike mass consisting of normal cells in an abnormal location. Oral choristoma is rare and it can consist of various tissues. An osseous-cartilaginous choristoma is a benign tumour consisting of bone and cartilage where bone and cartilage do not normally occur. The purpose of the present study is to report a case of palatal osseous-cartilaginous choristoma.

**Methods:** A 88-years old female reported having for many years a symptomless swelling in the retro-incisal area of the palate. The swelling appeared as a sessile nodular mass of about 0,6 cm of maximum antero-posterior diameter. It was covered by white mucosa, it was hard in consistency and painless on palpation. On the orthopantomographic radiograph, no pathological sign was clearly visible. The subsequent occlusal intraoral radiography revealed a roundish shaped homogeneous radiopaque area, located at the level of the inter-incisive area of the pre-maxilla. The mass was surgically removed under local anaesthesia. A losangic incision was performed in palatal mucosa at the level of the retro-incisal area, including the hard mass, which was then separated from the underlying osseous plate. The resected specimen was fixed with 10% neutral-buffered formalin and sent for microscopic examination. A surgical dressing was applied on the wound and removed after 7 days.

**Results:** The healing process took place without complications and discomfort. The microscopic analysis showed, in the contest of the oral mucosa chorion, an ovalar formation consisting of both dense lamellar bone and mature cartilaginous tissue, without any relevant atypia. The osseous trabeculae were surrounded by an osteoblastic border and were characterized by slightly fibrotic trabecular spaces. The overlying oral mucosa was characterized by orthokeratotic hyperkeratosis with minimal aspects of pseudoepitheliomatous hyperplasia.

**Conclusion:** Although many tumorlike masses, composed of differentiated cartilage or normal mature

lamellated bone in soft tissues, have been reported in the literature, only a few cases have been reported in the soft tissue of the oral cavity. Furthermore, the palate location is rare. In conclusion, oral choristoma is a rare benign lesion which can be resolved by simple surgical excision.

### Oral squamous cell carcinoma in a patient affected by graft-versus-host disease 20 years after allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation: a case report

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**Aim:** Graft-versus-host disease (GvHD) is a immunologic complication of allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) that may affects several organs and tissues. The oral cavity is the second most commonly affected organ, with a wide variety of lesions that could heavily impair the oral function and the quality of life of patients. The interactions between chronic inflammation and therapy-induced immunosuppression are not fully understood, however, a immunosuppression status in a field of chronic inflammation, as in GvHD, may interfere with tissue repair and enhance the risk for tumour genesis. Indeed, the incidence of oral squamous cell carcinoma in patients with GvHD has been reports as 4 to 7 times higher than general population. We report the onset of a OSCC in a patient affected by GvHD, as a possible late complication of HSCT.

**Methods:** We report the case of a man, who was referred to our Sector of Oral Medicine (University Hospital Policlinico "P. Giaccone" of Palermo, Italy) for the presence of diffuse aphthous lesions in the oral cavity.

**Results:** A 59-year-old male came to our attention, showing ulcerative lesions on the chewing mucosa of the 2nd sextant. The clinical history included diabetes, bone marrow transplant on 1999 due to a chronic myeloid leukemia, left kidney removal and testicular carcinoma. He reported no alcohol consumption and smoking 8 cigarettes a day. The clinical examination revealed the presence of a ulcerative symptomatic lesion on the chewing mucosa of the upper anterior teeth, with extension from the vestibular side to the median portion of the hard palate. Based on a high suspicion of malignancy, patient underwent a magnetic resonance imaging that highlighted an oval lesion measuring 1.5 cm x 0.6 cm x 0.8 cm with irregular margins, with contrast enhancement. Subsequently,



an incisional biopsy was carried out; furthermore, the microbiological examination test for HPV investigation were run. The histological examinations showed an epithelium discontinuously infiltrated by atypical cells with OSCC characteristics; the microbiological examination test was negative for HPV infection. Due to the confirmed diagnosis of OSCC, patient was subsequently referred to the Department of Oncology for the staging and management.

**Conclusion:** Patients affected by GvHD due to HSTC, have been shown to have an increased risk of developing OSCC, although the pathogenic mechanism are not yet clear. Usually in this group of patients the incidence of OSCC ranges from 1.2 to 1.6% at 5 years, from 2.2 to 6.1% at 10 years, and from 3.8 to 14.9% at 15 years post HSCT. Our case show how OSCC in these patients can develop even after many years (i.e. 20 yrs); additionally our case highlighted the need for a continuous multidisciplinary surveillance of patients with GVHD. Indeed, the onco-haematologists should carefully coordinated a multidisciplinary team during the long term follow-up, team that should include an oral medicine specialist, in order to manage HSCT complication and, eventually, promote early diagnosis of OSCC.

### Analysis of long non-coding RNAs expression in squamous cell carcinoma

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**Aim:** The aim of the work is to carry out a retrospective study, through histological and molecular biology analyses, to identify Long non-coding RNAs (LncRNA) as biomarkers of oral carcinoma. Through a careful analysis of the literature, we intend to clarify the role played by the most often mentioned types of LncRNAs in the different clinical types of oral carcinoma, in order to identify reliable biomarkers, to better characterize the staging of neoplasms. Since, in recent decades, despite public awareness campaigns promoted by dental professionals and scientific societies, the survival rate has remained unchanged, at around 50%, it is considered appropriate to refine the clinical study of this neoplasm, with biomarkers capable of predicting local aggressive behavior, the ability to metastasize, the

possibility of relapse and the response to treatments. The study is useful for providing tools, and be able to consequently plan more personalized approaches for the patient; to try to be more incisive and targeted, up to the molecular level, in the eradication of the disease in affected patients; or to be more aware of the management of the quality of life, in the case of injuries no longer removable surgically. Several Long non-coding RNAs were correlated with poor prognosis in patients with OSCC, and could potentially be used in clinical practice, as biomarkers.

**Methods:** By searching the database of the medical records archive at the Hospital of Circolo, we identified the numbers corresponding to patients diagnosed with Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma / Verrucous Carcinoma treated in the years 2010-2015. At the Pathology Anatomy Service of Circolo Hospital, we recovered the stained slides in hematoxylin-eosin, and other immunohistochemical investigations carried out previously. Each sample included were in sufficient quantity to obtain the following useful indications for the retrospective study. The paraffin samples stored in the archive, were subjected to nucleic acid extraction, using special kits. RNA was pre-amplified to complementary DNA (cDNA), to increase stability. Neoplastic and noncancerous matched tissue samples were subjected to molecular biology analysis with RT-PCR Arrays, for the identification of LncRNA that were suggestive of aggressive clinical behavior, capacity for lymph node metastasis, and frequency of recurrence and survival.

**Results:** In the preliminary results, 9 carcinomas were identified, and three sub-categories were characterized: Verrucous carcinoma, Metastatic Squamous cell carcinoma and Non-Metastatic Squamous cell carcinoma. Higher expression levels of some LncRNA's, such as HOTAIR, were detected in tumor tissue, when we compared the samples of noncancerous matched tissue (NCMT) with neoplastic tissue (NT). Identification of a greater or modify expression of Long non-coding RNA's in the neoplastic tissue was correlated with the histological type and with clinical behavior, and a higher expression was found in Metastatic Squamous cell carcinoma, in comparison with the other groups.

**Conclusion:** The preventive evaluation of LncRNA's expression, and a better understanding of their role, could give a more thorough perspective on the future treatment options for this cancer type.

### A rare case of oral lichen planus pemphigoides

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