



FNAC OF PAROTID SWELLING CYTOLOGICALLY DIAGNOSED AS WARTHIN'S TUMOR : A RARE CASE SERIES

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ABSTRACT Warthin's tumor is second most common benign neoplasm of the parotid gland, comprises up to 14%-30% of parotid tumors. (2) It affects mainly male of 6th-7th decade of life. It is also known as papillary cystadenoma lymphomatousum or adenolymphoma. *Studies have shown that there is a close association between Warthin's tumor and cigarette smoking. Preoperative fine needle aspiration cytology (FNAC) of a parotid mass plays a pivotal role in differentiating neoplastic from inflammatory lesion as well as management of patients.* Here we present a rare case series, presented with swelling in parotid region and preauricular.

KEYWORDS :

INTRODUCTION

Warthin's tumor was first described in American literature by Aldred Warthin in 1929. It is also known as papillary cystadenoma lymphomatousum or adenolymphoma. (1) Warthin's tumor is second most common benign neoplasm of the parotid gland, comprises up to 14%-30% of parotid tumors. (2) It affects mainly male of 6th-7th decade of life, with more men suffering from it than women at a ratio of 5 : 1 (10,11). It is almost exclusively limited to parotid gland.

CASE REPORT

CASE REPORT 1- A 30 yr. old male presented with chief complaint swelling in left parotid region which was painless, firm, mobile and nontender measuring 2x2 cm.

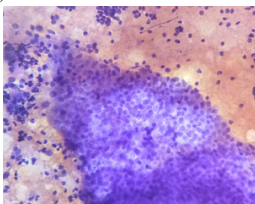
CASE REPORT 2- A 13 years old female presented with swelling below ear since 8-9 months which was painless and gradually progressive in size. On examination swelling measuring 1.5x1 cm.

CASE REPORT 3- A 55 years old female presented with swelling in right parotid region with history of fever and pain, initially swelling is small and gradually increased. On examination swelling measuring 2x1.5 cm. and it was firm, mobile and nontender.

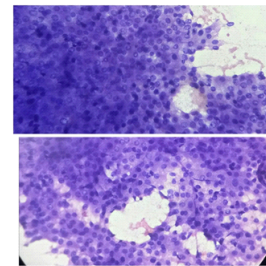
FNAC using 23 gauge needle was performed and on aspiration gelatinous material (10,11) was obtained, these smears were prepared and fixed in ethanol then stained with hematoxylin and eosin stain.

MICROSCOPIC FINDING

Smears from all the three cases show almost same pictures. The stained smears revealed good cellularity, epithelial cells arranged in flat, monolayered sheets and clusters. The epithelial cells were oncocytic in appearance with abundant, densely eosinophilic granular cytoplasm and round uniform bland nuclei, inconspicuous nucleoli. Background showed mixed population of reactive lymphocyte along with inflammatory cell infiltrate comprising of lymphocytes and macrophages. (3,4)



(This 10x magnification depicts large sheet of bland oncocytic epithelium with scattered single mast cell staining dark blue.)



(This 40x magnification diagnostic triad of monolayered sheets of uniform oncocytic epithelium cells with small nuclei, lymphocyte and proteinaceous material representing cyst fluid.)

DISCUSSION

Warthin's tumor is most commonly found in parotid gland but cases have also been reported in submaxillary gland. In previous study all tumors were located in parotid gland. (5) It affects mainly male of 6th-7th decade of life. (6) In our case series patients were of younger age group, smoker have high risk of developing Warthin's tumor, in our case series patients was non-smoker.

Uncommon presentation on the basis of age and sex, Warthin tumor is more common in 6th-7th decade of life in male associated with history of smoking. (7) In our case series, patients were of younger age group and out of 3 cases 2 are females. All the cases reported within 3 months. On the basis of clinical features, cytological findings and radiological findings, we have diagnosed these cases as Warthin's tumor.

The value of FNAC in diagnosing salivary gland lesions has been widely debated amongst clinicians and cytopathologists. (8) Cytologically it simulates many other lesions of salivary glands like low-grade mucoepidermoid, acinic cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, oncocytic carcinoma, oncocytoma, lymphoepithelial cyst. (9)

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