



Clinical, histopathological and immunohistochemical study of oral squamous papillomas.

Frigerio M, Martinelli-Kläy CP, Lombardi T.

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Objective: The aim of this study was to analyze the clinicopathological and immunohistochemical features of oral papillomas.

Materials and methods: Biopsies of oral papillomas analyzed in the laboratory between 1996-2012 were extracted from the database and used to conduct this retrospective review. The following clinical data were extracted: sex, age, location, clinical appearance, time of evolution, recurrence and first clinical diagnosis. Immunohistochemical analysis for Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and histological evaluation of the lesions were performed.

Results: A total of 205 papillomas were identified in 197 patients (♂=110, ♀ = 87; mean age = 48.4 ± 17.9 years). The majority of the lesions ($n = 47$) occurred on the soft palate (23%). The border of the tongue was the second most common site ($n = 20$, 9.8%). Lesions were more common in males than in females (ratio = 1.26:1). Statistical analysis did not show any correlation between the assessed variables. Clinically, papillomas were predominantly described by the practitioners as small nodules, with a papillary surface (98.1%) and pedunculated attachment (83.1%). Data supported a low recurrence (2.0%) and multiplicity (2.0%). Evolution time varied from a few weeks to several years. Most frequent misdiagnosis was condyloma. Immunohistochemistry rarely showed HPV presence (9.3%). Microscopically, lesions were very often keratinized (93.2%) and showed chronic inflammatory cells (68.8%).

Conclusions: In this series papillomas showed a slight male predilection and occurred mostly in the sixth decade of life. Histologically, they were usually keratotic and exhibited variable inflammation. HPV virus was rarely detected by immunohistochemistry. No statistical correlation could be established between clinicopathological features.