Nasopharyngeal Mixed Tumor: A Case Report

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Abstract

Salivary glands tumors account for less than 5% off all neoplasm in the head and neck. Pleomorphic adenoma is the most common type. Those typically arise in the palate, rarely found in the nasopharynx and nasopharyngeal tumors are usually malignant.

Here we report a rare case in 61-year-old woman, who had progressive nasal obstruction for about 6 months, without any disease in the nose, but had a round nasopharyngeal mass and pathologic diagnosis as pleomorphic adenoma. Nasopharyngeal pleomorphic adenoma is a rare tumor.

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Introduction

Salivary gland tumors are uncommon neoplasm’s [1] that represent 6-10% of all head and neck neoplasia and 0.3-0.5% of all cancers [2, 3]. The incidence of salivary gland tumors ranges from 0.5 to 2 per 100,000 in different parts of the world [3, 4], with varied biological behavior and clinical outcome [5]. Benign tumors of nasopharynx are rare since nasopharynx is common site for malignant tumors. Pleomorphic adenoma is the most common salivary gland tumor, but is rare in nasopharynx [6].

Case Presentation

A 61 years old woman came to the office with 6-month-long progressive nasal obstruction. Anterior rhinoscopy and nasal endoscopy were normal but a round mass was seen after the choana, in the posterior wall of nasopharynx. She had hypo nasal voice. Her ears, oropharynx and neck examination were normal; she had paranasal coronal CT and MRI study with herself.

They showed single round mass in the nasopharynx. The mass respected under general anesthesia with adenotome and homeostatic very simply and we did septoplasty too. The patient visited after a week, exiled with nasal endoscopy one and 6 months later. There was not any recurrence.

Discussion

The fosse of Rosenmuller is a common site of squamous cell carcinoma of the nasopharynx and nasal obstruction, epistaxis and neck adenopathy are common symptoms of nasopharyngeal carcinoma [6].

Pleomorphic adenoma or benign mixed tumor makes up 65% of salivary gland tumors [7]. Palate, nasal cavity and nasopharynx have minor salivary glands and pleomorphic adenoma is the most common benign tumor of these glands.
CT scan is not significant differentiation between carcinoma ex pleomorphic adenoma and benign pleomorphic adenoma [6]. Another form of this tumor is salivary gland anlagen tumor (SGAT) of the nasopharynx that is a rare cause of neonatal airway obstruction [8].

Taker et al. reported nasopharyngeal pleomorphic adenoma in a 35 years old male; they said that they found only 5 published reports on this tumor arising from nasopharynx [6]. Lee et al. reported another case of this nasopharyngeal tumor with unilateral nasolalia, tinnitus and aural fullness and a nasopharyngeal pleomorphic adenoma that rose in the soft palate [9]. On the way review of the literature reveals that nasopharyngeal pleomorphic adenoma is rare.

Nasopharyngeal pleomorphic adenoma is a rare tumor, but it must be in mind in the differential diagnosis of nasopharyngeal mass and nasal obstruction. The treatment is surgical removal and fallow up the patient.

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Conflict of Interest
The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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