Solitary mastocytoma: A rare presentation on the buccal mucosa

Bogahawatte Samarakoon Mudiyanselage Samadarani Siriwardena¹, Ruwan Duminda Jayasinghe², Neelakanthi Ratnatunga³, Wanninayake Mudiyanselage Tilakaratne¹

¹Department of Oral Pathology, Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; Corresponding Author: samadarani@yahoo.com
²Department of Oral Medicine and Periodontology, Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
³Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Received 11 February 2013; revised 15 March 2013; accepted 10 April 2013

ABSTRACT

Mastocytoma usually presents as a solitary lesion whereas mastocytosis is a rare skin condition which typically manifests with or without accompanied systemic symptoms. Although a few cases of solitary mastocytoma have been documented on mucosa (vulva), none has been reported on the oral mucosa in the English literature. The present case is an example of an exceptional rare presentation of solitary mastocytoma of the oral mucosa.

Keywords: Solitary Mastocytoma; Oral Mucosa

1. INTRODUCTION

Mastocytoma usually presents as a solitary lesion whereas mastocytosis is a rare skin condition which typically manifests with or without accompanied systemic symptoms. It is estimated that up to 10% to 15% of patients with mast cell disorders may develop a solitary mastocytoma without systemic involvement [1]. Although, a few cases of solitary mastocytoma have been documented on mucosa (vulva), none has been reported on the oral mucosa in the English literature. The prevalence of this lesion is higher in children and rare in older age. We report the first case of solitary mastocytoma in the oral cavity in a 20 yrs old female who presented with a lump on the buccal mucosa.

2. CASE REPORT

A 20 years old otherwise healthy female presented with a complaint of an asymptomatic lump for 3 years duration on the buccal mucosa to Oral Medicine clinic, Dental Hospital, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. On examination it was a firm, painless nodule of 0.75 cm × 0.75 cm and the colour was similar to normal oral mucosa. It was smooth surfaced and well defined with intact overlying mucosa. None of the inflammatory signs were found in the lesion. Any history of trauma could not be elicited. As the nodule was small, excisional biopsy was performed without an incisional biopsy with the clinical diagnosis of either a reactive fibroepithelial lesion or enlarged facial lymph node. Histopathologically, the lesion was composed of solid sheets of mast cells containing abundant eosinophilic cytoplasm. There was a marked infiltrate of eosinophils in between the main cell population (Figure 1). These cells were confirmed as mast cells with the special stain Toluidine blue (Figure 2). All the hematological investigations which were carried out appeared to be within normal limits and there was no organomegaly and the patient is on regular follow up. There is no evidence of recurrence during the follow up period of more than 8 months.

3. DISCUSSION

Mastocytosis is a rare disease characterized by abnormally increased numbers of mast cells in tissues. WHO classifies mastocytosis as cutaneous mastocytosis (urticaria pigmentosa), indolent systemic mastocytosis, systemic mastocytosis with an associated (clonal) hematologic non-mast cell lineage disease, aggressive systemic mastocytosis, mast cell leukemia, mast cell sarcoma and extra cutaneous mastocytoma [2]. Types of cutaneous mastocytosis include solitary mastocytoma, diffuse cutaneous mastocytosis, Maculopapular cutane-
ous mastocytosis and urticaria pigmentosa (UP).

Although solitary mastocytoma mostly occurs in young children, it rarely manifests in adults. The lesions are usually cutaneous and involve the face, trunk and extremities. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first case of solitary mastocytoma reported in the oral cavity. There are no specific signs and symptoms which may help the clinicians to include SM in the differential diagnosis of an oral mucosal lump. As it is a non-descript lump of normal mucosal colour, the differential diagnosis would be one of fibroepithelial lesions. However, the diagnosis is necessarily histopathological for the solitary lesion. Then, it is the duty of the clinician to exclude possible systemic involvement by performing bone marrow examination. Although mastocytoma in the oral mucosa is uncommon in humans many cases have been reported in animals such as dogs, cats and cattle [3]. Cuta-

Figure 1. Sheets of mast cells admixed with eosinophils (*) (H & E ×200).

Figure 2. Mast cells stained with Toluidine blue (×400).

REFERENCES


