

Multifocal canalicular adenoma of the minor labial salivary glands

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Canalicular adenoma (CA) is an uncommon benign neoplasia of salivary glands which is clinically difficult to recognise. Despite having an excellent prognosis, the histological diagnosis and clinical management of this entity can be troublesome. While the main differential diagnosis to consider is basal cell adenoma (BCA), similar histological patterns and multifocality have been observed in adenoid cystic carcinoma (ACC) and polymorphous low-grade adenocarcinoma (PLGA), both locally-aggressive malignancies which require radically different treatment to CA. An emphasis has been placed on the value of immunohistochemistry in avoiding diagnostic and surgical errors. CA is positive for AE1/AE3, CD117 and S-100 protein, and negative for p63, a-SMA, Ki 67 and vimentin. Here we discuss the case of a 61-year-old female with CA in her right upper lip, showing multifocal growth histologically. The differential diagnosis with other adenomas is discussed in addition to the role of immunohistochemical studies that can confirm the clinical and surgical findings.

Benign neoplasia

Canalicular adenoma

Lip

Minor salivary glands

tumor marker

adenoma

Carcinoma, Adenoid Cystic

case report

differential diagnosis

female

human

immunohistochemistry

middle aged

Salivary Gland Neoplasms

Adenoma

Biomarkers, Tumor

Carcinoma, Adenoid Cystic

Diagnosis, Differential

Female

Humans

Immunohistochemistry

Middle Aged

Salivary Gland Neoplasms