Sir,

Neurothekeoma (NTK) is an uncommon benign tumor of nerve sheath origin. On the basis of the amount of myxoid content, it is classified into classical, mixed and cellular variants. The lesion usually shows spindle or stellate-shaped cells, typically grouped in cords or nests scattered in a myxomatous background.

A 54-year male presented to a private dental clinic with the chief complain of an asymptomatic nodular swelling on his left buccal mucosa. Family history and past medical history were not relevant to the present swelling. Intra-oral examination revealed a dome shaped nodule on the left buccal mucosa measuring 2 x 1 cm in dimension. The color of the lesion was pink without ulceration (Figure 1). On palpation, the lesion was found to be firm and non-tender. A provisional diagnosis of fibroma with differential diagnosis of lipoma was given. The lesion was surgically excised under local anesthesia and the excised tissue was sent for histopathological evaluation (Figure 2) to the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, NIMS Dental College, Jaipur. No recurrence was noted.

Histopathological examination of hematoxylin and eosin stained soft tissue sections revealed collection of spindle to epitheloid cells arranged in nodules with minimal myxoid areas (Figure 3). Based on histopathological features, a final diagnosis of cellular NTK was rendered.

NTK is a generally accepted term for a rare type of benign dermal tumours originating from nerve sheath, first proposed by Gallager and Helwig in 1980. This entity was previously described and known as nerve sheath myxoma (NSM). Cellular NTK was later identified as a subtype based on histopathological and immunohistological features. It is generally a cutaneous lesion, and mucosal involvement has been rarely reported. The histogenesis of NTKs has been controversial as there is an equal support for the origin of NTKs from schwann cells and perineural cells. Local excision is the treatment of choice for NSM. No recurrence has been reported after local excision.

REFERENCES

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