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Comparative study of impression cytology and tissue histology for ocular surface squamous neoplasia in a tertiary care centre

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Purpose: To compare Impression Cytology and Tissue Biopsy for Ocular Surface Squamous Neoplasia.

Methods: A hospital based prospective comparative study of all patients suspicious of Ocular Surface Squamous Neoplasia from its clinical features, presenting over a period of one year was carried out. Impression Cytology and Tissue Histology were performed on all the included cases.

Results: A total number of 30 cases were included. Ocular surface squamous neoplasia was seen most commonly seen in males in the older age group (Mean age-52.27 years. They presented most commonly with mass, redness and foreign body sensation. Squamous cell carcinoma mostly presented as papilliform sessile masses (70%) and Carcinoma in situ as gelatinous masses (57.1%). All the cases of squamous cell carcinoma involved both conjunctiva and cornea. The most common histologic report was squamous cell carcinoma (33%), followed by carcinoma in situ (23%) and dysplasia (20%). Compared with histologic findings, impression cytology had a sensitivity of 86.9% and specificity of 85.71%. The positive and negative predictive accuracy of impression cytology was 95.23% and 50%, respectively.

Conclusion: This study shows that impression cytology might have a promising role in diagnosing Ocular surface squamous neoplasia for its high sensitivity, specificity and positive predictive accuracy compared with tissue histology. However, a fair negative predictive accuracy indicates that impression cytology is a valuable screening technique, but it is not a gold standard.

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