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Naso lacrimal duct tumors in the era of endoscopic sinus surgery

Faiz Tanweer

Leeds General Infirmary, UK

Nasolacrimal duct tumors are rare and are often found inadvertently during dacryocystorhinostomy. Anecdotal case reports have been published, mostly in ophthalmology journals. Since the era of endoscopic dacryocystorhinostomy, such cases are more frequently encountered by ENT surgeons. They comprise a large and variable spectrum of entities. Malignant tumours are more common.

A retrospective chart review of patients who underwent endoscopic dacryocystorhinostomy over the last 10 years in our dedicated epiphora clinic was conducted to search for the incidence of nasolacrimal tumors in our cohort. An extensive web-based search (using Pubmed, Medline, Embase and Google Scholar) was also conducted. This focused on case reports and series or review articles on primary nasolacrimal duct and lacrimal sac tumours, and their endoscopic management, which had been published in the last 16 years (June 1995 to May 2011). The exclusion criteria were: metastatic nasolacrimal duct tumours or tumour extension from the surrounding area and non-English literature. In total, 77 papers were identified, comprising a total of 118 cases.

Four of 525 endoscopic dacryocystorhinostomy procedures exposed a tumor (inverted papilloma, oncocyoma, lymphoma and solitary fibrous tumor). The literature review revealed that papilloma was the most frequently reported benign tumor and lymphoma was the most common malignant tumor.

Since the advent of endoscopic dacryocystorhinostomy, tumors are being diagnosed relatively early when smaller in size and so have a better chance of cure. Because of the rarity of this condition, it is advisable that such cases are managed through a dedicated epiphora service framework.

Biography

Faiz Tanweer has completed his M.S (ENT) at the age of 31 years from Patna Medical College, India and Membership studies from Royal College of surgeons of Edinburgh, United Kingdom. He has extensive experience of working in the specialty in different countries including India, Maldives and United Kingdom. Currently, he is the ENT Specialist registrar at Leeds General Infirmary, Leeds, UK. He has presented in many national and international scientific meetings and published more than 10 outstanding papers in peer reviewed reputed medical journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of BMJ case report, United Kingdom.

faiztanweer@gmail.com