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Recurrent Multifocal Indeterminate Dendritic Cell Tumor Involving Oral Mucosa: A Rare Case Report

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Indeterminate dendritic cell sarcoma is a rare dendritic cell disorder mostly presenting as dermal-based lesions. We present an 86-year-old man with a skin lesion of the left temporal scalp, which was diagnosed as an atypical histiocytic proliferation. Three months later, multiple skin lesions recurred on the scalp. A diagnosis of indeterminate dendritic cell sarcoma was rendered on skin biopsy in June 2014 on the basis of immunomorphology including a negative langerin stain. Three months later a right palatal mass appeared. Right soft and hard palate were resected. Grossly, the tumor showed ulcerated mucosa and involvement of hard and soft palate. Histologically, the tumor consisted of proliferation of large pleomorphic cells with irregular nuclear membranes, occasional nucleoli, nuclear grooves, and eosinophilic cytoplasm. Immunohistochemical stains showed the tumor cells to be strongly positive for CD1a, S-100, CD68, and vimentin. The tumor cells were negative for CD3, CD5, CD20, CD79a, CD21, CD23, CD30, CD45, HMB45, melan-A, myeloperoxidase, and cytokeratin (AE1/AE3). A langerin (CD207) immunohistochemical stain was negative in tumor cells. Altogether, the immunomorphologic features were consistent with the diagnosis of indeterminate dendritic cell tumor. The patient presented with recurrence 3 months later with involvement of right mandible, buccal mucosa, and right lateral tongue. A composite resection was performed. The anterolateral margin and 2 submandibular lymph nodes were positive for metastasis. In summary, this tumor manifested in the scalp, but was soon found in multiple areas of the skin of the head, and within 3 months presented as an ulcerated palatal mass with subsequent rapid recurrence, local spread to surrounding structures, and lymph node metastasis. These findings indicate that oral mucosa may also serve a site for involvement and spread of this tumor. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first indeterminate dendritic cell tumor reported involving the oral mucosa.

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