Solitary fibrous tumor of the lacrimal gland: A clinicopathological review of all reported cases in comparison to the salivary gland

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Background: Solitary fibrous tumor (SFT) is a rare tumor known to arise from the pleura. Extra pleural SFT has been described in the head and neck including the salivary glands and orbit.

Objectives: To provide baseline useful demographic and clinicopathological information on this tumor in the lacrimal gland.

Design: Retrospective collection of data of all reported cases of lacrimal gland region SFT in the English-written literature.

Setting: The current case description is added to the reported 10 cases over the last 20 years.

Materials & Methods: All 11 cases were summarized with focus on histopathological findings in comparison to those in the parotid salivary gland. Main outcome measures: the demographics, clinical presentation, histopathological features and recurrence rate were looked at.

Results: 11 cases were studied with detailed clinical information in 9. Age ranged from 24-76 years (mean=36 years). Male to female ratio was 2:1. Left side was involved in 7/9. A palpable mass was the commonest clinical presentation in 6/9, followed by upper lid swelling, proptosis and limited motility with a mean duration of 18 months. Histopathologically, 4 cases showed lacrimal gland tissue entrapment. Recurrence was noted in one case where the initial excision was misdiagnosed as Schwannoma.

Conclusions: SFT of the lacrimal gland-compared to the parotid gland-tends to occur at a younger age with stronger male predominance, and left side involvement. Duration of clinical presentation is shorter. The histopathological appearance including the entrapment of glandular tissue and the immunohistochemical features are similar in both locations. None of the lacrimal gland tumors showed atypical features.

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