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Human papillomavirus infection in Chinese oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma and its relationship with survival by tissue microarray analysis

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S quamous cell carcinoma (SCC) in the head and neck region is the sixth most common malignancy throughout the world today. Given more and more basic and clinical research and reports emerged, its overall 5-year survival rate is still poor. The further research on its etiology and pathogenesis in different countries and regions may apply new clues for the choice of therapeutic strategy. It is well known that classical SCC in oral cavity is closely related with the abuse of tobacco and alcohol. However, 90% of oropharyngeal SCC in North America and Europe is associated with high risk human papillomavirus (HPV) infections. These HPV+ cases presented more favorable prognosis than HPV- cases. But the infection rate of HPV in Chinese oropharyngeal SCC was much lower than that in western countries through our study. We also discussed the demographic characteristics, the relationship between HPV with the differentiation and survival of oropharyngeal SCC.

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