Solitary Diffuse Neurofibroma of Tongue—
A Case Report

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Abstract

Neurofibromas are derived from the nerve sheath and are commonly located in the head and neck region. It is often related to neurofibromatosis, especially type I which also known as von Recklinghausen’s disease of the skin. Intraoral neurofibroma not related to neurofibromatosis is relatively uncommon. We present a case of solitary neurofibroma in a young female who denied family history of neurofibromatosis and lack of other signs of neurofibromatosis, presented with a painless submucosal mass over the left side of the tongue. She received total excision of the tumor and the pathology proved to be diffuse neurofibroma.

Key words: neurofibroma, tongue.

Introduction

Neurofibroma is a peripheral nerve neoplasm arising from a mixture of Schwann cells and perineural fibroblasts. It can occur as a solitary lesion or a component of neurofibromatosis, which is regarded as an inherited autosomal dominant disorder. Neurofibromatosis can be classified into 8 types at least, and the most common form is type I (NF-1, von Recklinghausen’s disease of the skin) which neurofibroma is often associated with. Intraoral neurofibromas not related to NF-1 are relatively uncommon compared to typical neurofibromas often occur in the head and neck region1-3. In this article, we describe a solitary neurofibroma arising from tongue in a young female patient who presented with a painless mass over the left side of the tongue for almost an year. Literature review of the intraoral neurofibromas was also discussed here.

Case report

A 28-year-old female presented to our hospital with the chief complaint of a painless enlargement of mass over her left side of the tongue for one year. Prior to seeking help from our Oral and maxillofacial outpatient clinic, she was treated in a local medical clinic with