LYMPHOEPITHELIAL CARCINOMA OF THE SUBLINGUAL GLAND ASSOCIATED WITH EBV INFECTION: A CASE REPORT

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**Purpose:** Lymphoepithelial carcinoma (LEC) is a subtype of undifferentiated carcinoma, which is originated from squamous cell. Lymphoepithelial carcinoma is a rare tumor of the major salivary gland, especially in sublingual gland. In most cases, LEC affected the parotid gland. There are high incidences in Greenlandic Eskimos and Southeastern Asians with strongly associated with Epstein-Barr virus infection. To our knowledge, there is no case of LEC in sublingual gland reported in the medical literature.

**Materials and Methods:** We report the first case of LEC of the sublingual tumor of a 37-year-old Taiwanese man. The initial presentation was a mass over the submental area. PET/CT scan showed there was only a locoregional disease, which was limited in the left mouth floor and submental lymph node. Nasopharynx was not involved at the same time. Serological studies showed elevated titer of Epstein-Barr virus capsid antigen IgG and IgA antibodies. Immunohistochemical stain of LMP-1 also showed the positive result. The patient underwent excision and lymphodectomy followed by definite radiotherapy.

**Result:** Complete remission of LEC of the sublingual gland was achieved by the definite radiotherapy. The patient remained alive without any recurrence or metastasis after 20-month of follow-up.

**Conclusion:** LEC of the salivary gland is a radiosensitive disease and has a better prognosis among the undifferentiated carcinoma at the head and neck region. High rates of locoregional control were achieved by radiotherapy. Therefore, radiotherapy is appropriate locoregional therapy for patients in the early stage or after surgical intervention.

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Key words: Lymphoepithelial carcinoma, The sublingual gland, EBV, Salivary gland

**INTRODUCTION**

Lymphoepithelial carcinoma (LEC) is a subtype of undifferentiated carcinoma, which is originated from squamous cell [8]. Lymphoepithelial carcinoma is a rare tumor of the majority salivary gland, especially in sublingual gland. In most cases, LEC affected with parotid gland. LECs occur most often in Greenland Eskimos and Southeastern Asians.