

The Luxated Comprisal-Salivary Gland Inclusions-Lymph Node

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Inclusions of salivary gland tissue confined to lymph nodes represent as a benign condition wherein salivary gland structures appear incorporated within lymph node parenchyma. Commonly encountered as an incidentally discerned feature, the ectopic salivary gland tissue is pre-eminently constituted of salivary ducts and acini.

Additionally designated as salivary gland inclusions or heterotopic salivary gland tissue, ectopic salivary gland tissue is frequently confined to upper cervical lymph nodes. Exceptionally, thoracic or mediastinal lymph nodes may display benign aggregates of salivary gland tissue.

Ectopic salivary gland tissue is contemplated as a developmental anomaly concurrent with diverse focal embryological manifestations encountered within the region [1,2].

Essentially the condition may be asymptomatic or may be discerned as an incidental discovery. Alternatively, implicated lymph nodes may be enlarged [1,2].

Benign Epithelial Tumours	Malignant Epithelial Tumours
Pleomorphic adenoma	Mucoepidermoid carcinoma
Basal cell adenoma	Adenoid cystic carcinoma
Warthin tumour	Acinic cell carcinoma
Oncocytoma	Secretory carcinoma
Salivary gland myoepithelioma	Micro-secretory adenocarcinoma
Canalicular adenoma	Polymorphous adenocarcinoma
Cystadenoma of salivary gland	Hyalinising clear cell carcinoma
Ductal papilloma	Basal cell adenocarcinoma
Sialadenoma papilliferum	Intra-ductal carcinoma
Lymphadenoma	Salivary duct carcinoma
Sebaceous adenoma	Myoepithelial carcinoma
Intercalated duct adenoma and hyperplasia	Epithelial-myoepithelial carcinoma
Striated duct adenoma	Mucinous adenocarcinoma

Sclerosing polycystic adenoma	Sclerosing micro-cystic adenocarcinoma
Keratocystoma	Carcinoma ex pleomorphic adenoma
Sialolipoma (mesenchymal tumour of salivary gland)	Carcinosarcoma of salivary glands
	Sebaceous adenocarcinoma
	Lympho-epithelial carcinoma
	Squamous cell carcinoma
	Sialoblastoma
	Salivary carcinoma (NOS) and emerging entities

Table 1: WHO classification of salivary gland tumors (5th edition) [3].

Stage	Involvement	Extra-nodal (E) status
Limited		
Stage I	One node or a group of adjacent nodes	Single extra-nodal lesion without nodal involvement
Stage II	Two or more lymph node groups on the same side of the diaphragm	Stage I or II lymph node region with limited contiguous nodal involvement
Stage II bulky	II as above with bulky mass	Not applicable
Advanced		
Stage III	Nodes on both sides of diaphragm. Nodes above the diaphragm with spleen involvement	Not applicable
Stage IV	Additional non contiguous extra-lymphatic involvement	Not applicable

Table 2: Modified Ann Arbor Staging of Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma (Lugano) [4].

Grossly, the condition is associated with unaltered or enlarged lymph nodes [5].

Upon microscopy, salivary gland ducts and acini are unquestionably observed. Constituent benign salivary gland ducts appear layered by a dual layer of epithelium and myo-epithelium. The benign salivary gland acinar cells demonstrate intracellular zymogen granules [5].

Ectopic salivary gland tissue confined to lymph node parenchyma necessitates distinction from lesions as distant metastasis from various primary adenocarcinomas [6,7].

Generally, the condition does not mandate specific treatment. However, cogent therapeutic intervention pertains to precise clinical scenarios. Categorically benign, the condition appears to lack pertinent clinical significance. However, ectopic salivary gland tissue may delineate various disorders addressing salivary gland parenchyma besides numerous neoplastic lesions. Warthin's tumour is a frequently encountered neoplasm [6,7].

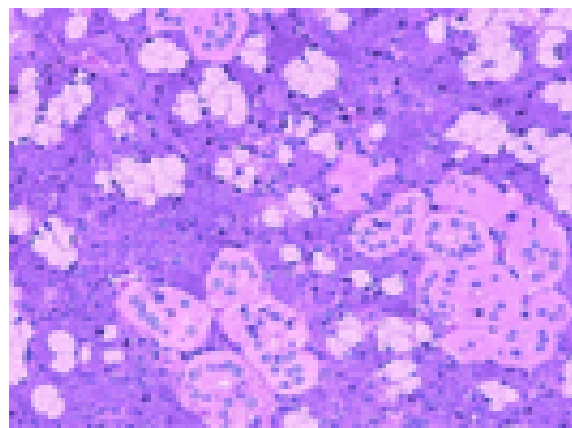


Figure 1: Ectopic salivary gland tissue composed of salivary gland acini, ductules layered by epithelium and myoepithelial cells surrounded by mature lymphoid tissue [8].

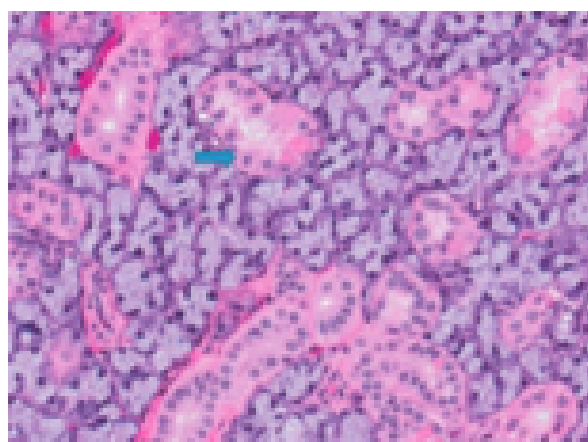


Figure 2: Ectopic salivary gland tissue constituted of salivary glands, ducts and acini lined by dual epithelial and myoepithelial cell layer. Circumscribing stroma of mature lymphoid tissue is encountered [9].

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8. Image 1 Courtesy: Medcell.org.
9. Image 2 Courtesy: Science direct.

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