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Association of *VEGF* gene as prognostic marker in subjects with oral submucous fibrosis (OSMF) of North Karnataka population

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Oral cancer imposes a considerable problem worldwide being a highly lethal and disfiguring disease. According to the report of the World Health Organization, oral cancer is the sixth most common cancer worldwide and the most common intraoral subtype is squamous cell carcinoma. The formation or progression of oral cancer may be associated with a polymorphism of the vascular endothelial growth factor (*VEGF*) gene. OSCC was associated with significantly elevated serum *VEGF* concentration and higher level of serum *VEGF* also correlated with lymph node metastasis and clinical stage of OSCC. There have been association of *VEGF*-460C/T polymorphism in oral cancer, diabetic retinopathy, breast cancer, prostate cancer, but very few studies are known to validate the association of the *VEGF* gene with potentially premalignant conditions like oral submucous fibrosis. The most frequently seen polymorphism is BstUI (C to T) located at the -460th nucleotide upstream of the *VEGF* gene. With the malignant transformation rate of OSMF being 7-30%, *VEGF* gene -460C/T can become an important prognostic marker. The aim of our study was to assess the polymorphic nature of *VEGF* -460C/T gene in subjects with oral submucous fibrosis of North Karnataka population and analyze the comparison between the association of *VEGF* -460C/T polymorphism in patients with oral submucous fibrosis and healthy controls.

Biography

Devishree V Rai has completed her BDS degree from A B Shetty Memorial Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital and is presently pursuing her MDS degree from SDM College of Dental Sciences & Hospital. She has presented poster titled "Viropsy" for the National Conference held in Lucknow. She has presented case report on "Acromegaly" in PG Convention held in Bangalore. She has presented case report on "Odontogenic Myxoma" in a National Conference held in Mangalore. She has also been awarded the research grant from Indian Council of Medical Research for her dissertation.

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