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**Evaluation of ploidy status using DNA image cytometry of exfoliated mucosal cells in oral lichen planus****Ravi Teja Chitturi Suryaprakash**

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Oral lichen planus (OLP) is one of the potentially malignant disorders with a malignancy rate of 0.2-2%. Aneuploidy is considered to be one of the important markers for malignant transformation and DNA image cytometry (DIC) has been successfully employed in oral mucosal PMDs and also in tumors of the cervix, lung and biliary tract. In this study we intend to assess the ploidy status of exfoliated cells in OLP using DIC. Exfoliated cells from 48 patients with different subtypes of OLP (reticular, plaque type, erosive and atrophic) were stained using Feulgen reaction and assessed for integrated optical density (IOD) using an image analysis software and the ploidy status was assessed. Most of the patients who had reticular or plaque type of OLP (29 out of 31) exhibited diploid nuclei in the smears, whereas 11 patients who had erosive or atrophic types of OLP showed aneuploid nuclei. The patients with erosive or atrophic types of OLP are at more risk and assessment of ploidy status by exfoliative cytology can be used as an adjuvant for diagnosis.

**Biography**

Ravi Teja Chitturi Suryaprakash has completed his MDS in Oral Pathology and Microbiology Annamalai University and worked as a Faculty in India from 2013 to 2015. He is currently a Lecturer in the University of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago. He has published more than 25 papers in reputed journals and is the Assistant Editor of *Journal of Orfacial Sciences*. He is currently working on a research project funded by The University of the West Indies studying the role of herbal medicines on oral diseases.

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