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Equine Melanoma: Anatomoclinical expression and biological behavior

Immunohistochemistry techniques allow for the visualization of specific markers relevant to the diagnosis and prognosis of neoplasms since they are characteristic of particular cellular events. In horses, variations in proliferation and adhesion markers expression were associated with the degree of melanoma malignancy. Although this tumor is not a recent entity, research has not accompanied the evolution of anatomoclinical diagnostic techniques. Due to it, we identified possible relationships between anatomoclinical expression and biological behavior, correlating them with the degree of tumor malignancy. For this, horses with the diagnosis of melanoma confirmed by cytopathological and histopathological exams were selected from the Archive of the Veterinary Pathology Department, without predilection for the race, gender or age. Cytopathological slides were analyzed for the presence of a typical melanocytes, while those stained with HE were evaluated according to micrometric criteria of "Breslow". Furthermore, we analyzed the presence of lymphocytic infiltration, angiolymphatic invasion, necrosis, and mitosis. The avidin-biotin-peroxidase technique was used for immunolabeling reactions that identify S-100, Ki-67, E-cadherin, and CD44. Thus, cell receptors of the proliferative phase, loss of adhesion, migration, and evasion were observed. The density of the immunolabeled cells of each antibody was determined by five fields of greatest magnification under an optical microscope. The results were submitted to statistical analysis. We intended to contribute a better understanding of the biological behavior of this tumor. In order to demonstrate it, a quickly carried out diagnosis was done which contain several criteria of malignancy and has a significant importance in the patient's prognosis.

Biography

Noeme Sousa Rocha was graduated in Veterinary Medicine from State University of Maranhao (1989), completed Masters in Pathology from São Paulo State University (1994) and PhD in Pathology from Sao Paulo State University (1998). She is currently an Associate Teacher of São Paulo State University, Brazil and she has experience in the area of veterinary medicine, with emphasis on animal pathology anatomy, acting on the following topics: veterinary, cytopathology, pathology, cancer and histopathology. She is also an Associate Member of the International Academy of Pathology.

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