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Histopathologic patterns of salivary gland tumors (SGTs): A 10- year retrospective study

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The incidence of salivary gland tumors is influenced by geographical and racial factors. The histopathologic classification and nomenclature of salivary gland neoplasms as defined by WHO classification (2005), is accepted globally but little is available in the literature regarding the trend of these tumors in Africa based on this classification. Our study was to outline the histopathologic patterns of SGTs in a Tertiary center in Lagos Nigeria. This was a retrospective study; data was retrieved from the records at the Department of Anatomic and Molecular Pathology and Oral Pathology at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital from 2006 to 2015. All SGTs were grouped using the WHO 2005 Classification of SGTs. 172 cases of salivary gland neoplasms were diagnosed. There were 88(51.1%) males and 84(48.6%) females. The age range of the 170 patients with recorded ages was from 4 to 85 years. The mean age at diagnosis was 43.5 years (SD =59.2 years) and the median was 40.8 years. 44.2% of neoplasms affected the parotid, 19.8% involved the submandibular and 34.9% affected the MiSGs. Malignant tumors occurred more in the MiSGs (47.9%). Malignant benign tumors accounted for 54.7% and 45.3% respectively. Pleomorphic adenoma was the most common benign tumor (94.8%), followed by basal cell adenoma (3.9%). No Wharton's tumor was found. The malignant tumors were dominated by adenoid cystic carcinoma (40.4%) followed by mucoepidermoid carcinoma (29.8%). Overall the patterns seen in our study corresponds with many of the previous researchers. In that we a dominance of adenoid cystic carcinoma as well as predilection of malignant tumors for the minor glands.

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