Title: Atypical squamous proliferations of the skin: a 10-year review of ambiguous terminology, histopathology and clinical management

Name: Ruby Gibson
Long School of Medicine, University of Texas Health San Antonio

Atypical squamous proliferation (ASP) is a descriptive term used for a specimen when pathologists are unable to exclude a variant of squamous cell carcinoma. The objective of this study was to retrospectively review the current management, differential diagnosis, and histopathologic features of ASPs. A multicenter retrospective chart review was performed for skin biopsies reported as "atypical squamous proliferation" (ASPs) between 2004 and 2014. A total of 771 ASP specimens were identified. The most common location was head and neck region (53%). Management strategies for ASPs included excision (42.5%) followed by repeat biopsy (18.4%), observation (16%), and Mohs micrographic surgery (15.9%). The original pathologist solely favored a benign process such as actinic keratosis in 40.52% of cases. The retrospective dermatopathologist favored malignant diagnosis over an ASP diagnosis more frequently than the general pathologist. Of the biopsies, 183 (24%) were labeled as inadequate biopsies. Of all the cases that were rebiopsied, the lesion was upgraded to malignant 22% of the cases. ASP present a diagnostic and therapeutic challenge for both pathologists and dermatologists. Inadequate superficial biopsies and overlapping histopathologic features prevent a definitive histopathologic diagnosis. Our study emphasizes the importance of taking adequate biopsies when squamous cell proliferation is in the differential.

Biography

Ruby Gibson is currently a fourth year medical at the Long School of Medicine at the University of Texas Health San Antonio applying for dermatology residency.

Presenting author details
Full name: Ruby Gibson
Contact number:: 210-712-7070
Email: GibsonR@livemail.uthscsa.edu
Session name/ number:
Category: Poster presentation