Mucoepidermoid carcinoma. A case report

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Abstract

Introduction

Mucoepidermoid carcinoma accounts for 1-4% of all parotid tumours. It is the most common malignant tumour of the parotid gland, with an aspecific symptomatology and slow progression.

Three histological types are defined: low grade, intermediate grade and high grade.

Management combines excisional surgery with radiotherapy depending on the histological grade

Case presentation:

An 8-year-old female child from one of the regions of Burundi, consults for a left jugal mass extending to the neck in its upper laterocervical part. This mass has been evolving for 3 years. The history of the disease dates back to 3 years ago when the parents noticed a small left preauricular jugal mass. The progressive increase of the mass motivated the medical consultation.

Examination revealed a large, regular, circumscribed left jugal mass extending to the neck, discretely mobile in relation to the deep plane. There is no facial paralysis or cervical adenopathy. The skin opposite is healthy.

A CT scan of the facial mass revealed a large circumscribed left parotid mass with no deep infiltration. A conservative total parotidectomy was decided upon and allowed for the non-complete removal of the mass, the endofacial part of which infiltrated the masseter muscle. The postoperative course was simple. The histology received three weeks after the operation was in favour of an intermediate grade mucoepidermoid carcinoma according to the AFIP (Armed Forces Pathology) classification.