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Conclusions: Autophagy may be involved in the pathogenesis of PA and ACC of the salivary glands. The upregulation of this intracellular degradation system and the reduced nuclear translocation of p62 could contribute to the aggressive biological behavior of ACC of salivary glands.

IMMUNOHISTOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF CXCL12 AND CXCR4 IN SYNDROMIC AND NONSYNDROMIC ODONTOGENIC KERATOCYSTS Amanda Lira Rufino De Lucena, Wiliana Pontes De Lima, Allany De Oliveira Andrade, Roberta Barroso Cavalcante, Polliana Muniz Alves, Cassiano Francisco Weege Nonaka, and Manuel Antonio Gordon-Núñez, 

Objectives: To evaluate the immunexpression of chemokine CXCL12 and C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 (CXCR4) in odontogenic keratocysts associated with Gorlin-Goltz syndrome (SOKCs) and nonsyndromic odontogenic keratocysts (NSOKCs).

Study Design: The percentages of cytoplasmic (CXCL12 and CXCR4) and nuclear (CXCR4) staining in epithelial and fibrous capsule cells of 22 SOKCs and 22 NSOKCs were determined. The results were analyzed statistically using the nonparametric Mann-Whitney test and Spearman correlation test.

Results: Higher cytoplasmic expression of CXCL12 was observed in the epithelial lining and fibrous capsule of SOKCs compared to NSOKCs (P < .001). No statistically significant differences in the cytoplasmic expression of CXCR4 were observed between SOKCs and NSOKCs (P > .05). Compared to SOKCs, NSOKCs exhibited higher nuclear expression of CXCR4 in the epithelial lining and lower immunexpression in the fibrous capsule (P < .05). In the epithelial lining of SOKCs, a positive correlation was observed between cytoplasmic and nuclear expression of CXCR4 (P = .003). In the fibrous capsule of SOKCs and NSOKCs, cytoplasmic and nuclear expressions of CXCR4 were positively correlated (P < .001).

Conclusions: The results suggest a potential involvement of CXCL12 and CXCR4 in the development of OKCs. The heterogenous expression of these proteins in SOKCs and NSOKCs may reflect differences in their pathogenesis and biological behavior.

THE PANDEMIC OF COVID-19 AND THE TEACHING OF MICROSCOPIC ANATOMY: A PRACTICE USING VIRTUAL MICROSCOPY AND ONLINE CLASSES João Pedro Santos Nascimento, Maria Gabriela Rolim Silveira Sá, Laura Rabelo Paolinielli, Vânia Eloisa De Araújo, Soraya De Mattos Camargo Grossmann, Paulo Eduardo Alencar De Souza, and Giovanna Ribeiro Souto, 

Objectives: To evaluate the experience of students with the transition from traditional optical microscopy (OM) to virtual microscopy (VM), explored by online pathology classes during the COVID-19.

Study Design: Students who agreed to participate in the survey received a complete questionnaire through the SurveyMonkey platform, which was previously tested in pilot study. This questionnaire evaluated the learning experience after the use of OM and VM.

Results: The evaluation showed better results for VM in the following items: performance, better learning, increased interest, and better observation of lesion details. However, the students did not consider that VM makes the class more stimulating and attractive than OM. The students also realized the value of OM for academic education in health and dentistry and that it makes the class more interesting. VM was classified as having a better histologic definition (71.4%), being easier to use (97.6%), allowing a better assessment of the structures (85.7%), better resolving doubts (61.9%), and allowing study of the slides in a shorter time (100%).

Conclusions: The students considered VM the best method to study histopathology.

CHOLESTEROL DEPLETION SUPPORT A STEM CELL–LIKE AND PROLIFERATIVE PROFILE IN OSCC CELL LINE Marina Costa, Jamerson Carvalho Silva, Rebeca Barros Nascimento, Fernanda Rodrigues, Katücia Batista Da Silva Paiva, and Flávia Caló De Aquino Xavier, 

Objectives: Oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) is able to invade and develop metastasis. Cancer stem cells have been associated with tumor development, progression, and recurrence of OSCC. Tumor cells have high cholesterol rates in their membranes, and cholesterol depletion affects these cells and interferes in carcinogenesis. The objective was to evaluate the effect of cholesterol depletion with methyl-β-cyclodextrin (MβCD) on the expression of stem cell markers CD44 and ESA in OSCC cell line SCC-9.

Study Design: SCC-9 cells were depleted with MβCD at concentrations 0, 7.5, 10, and 15 mM and evaluated by flow cytometry for CD44 and ESA markers.

Results: An increase in the CD44-high/ESA-high population was observed after cholesterol depletion at all evaluated concentrations. This increase was accompanied by a decrease in the CD44-low population, indicating that depletion favors the selection of stem cell–like cells. There was no difference in the percentage of CD44-high/ESA-low cells in the treated groups compared to the control group.

Conclusions: Cholesterol depletion seems to induce a stem cell–like profile with greater proliferative capacity in OSCC cells.

EVALUATION OF SERUM VITAMIN D3 [1.25 (OH) 2] LEVELS IN PATIENTS WITH ORAL LICHEN PLANUS AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH DISEASE Sara Lia Gonçalves, Cibely Gonçalves De Lima, Andrezza Do Carmo Santos, Diego Antonio Costa Arantes, Elismauro Francisco De Mendonça, and Nádia Do Lago Costa, 

Objectives: To evaluate the serum level of vitamin D3 (VD3) in patients with oral lichen planus (OLP) and its relationship with the severity of this pathology.

Study Design: This observational study was composed of patients diagnosed with OLP according to the criteria of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. Clinical-demographic data of the patients were collected, and a serologic exam was requested to assess the levels of VD3, which subsequently related to clinical parameters of severity: clinical type, symptoms, and response to corticosteroid therapy. The statistical analysis was descriptive, and chi-square test was used.

Results: The analysis of 34 patients with OLP revealed a predominance of females (n = 29; 85.2%) with a mean age of 47.5 (±14.6) years. VD3 deficiency (<30 ng/mL) was detected in 24 patients (70.5%) and, when compared to the milder forms of the disease, most were of the erosive type (P = .02) and with a negative response to corticosterotherapy (P < .001). In patients with