

R1 R2 R3 PG0 PG1 Estagiário Tecnólogo
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Service (sector) Tumor and Pathology N° CEP

Conjunctival Squamous-cell carcinoma in HIV infected patients.

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Purpose: To evaluate epidemiological data and outcome of HIV infected patients with conjunctival Squamous-cell carcinoma (SCC) Methods: Data from files of patients with SCC attended at the Ocular Oncology Section of Federal University of Sao Paulo from January 2000 to September 2003 were reviewed. The HIV infected patients were included in this study.

Epidemiological data such as sex, gender, immunological status at the diagnosis, treatment, follow up and outcome were obtained. Results: Forty six patients were attended, and 11 (24%) were HIV positive, and were included. Ten patients were previously known as HIV positive and 1 was confirmed after the tumor resection. The mean age was 41 yo (32 - 54 yo). All of them were male. Ten were white and one black. Only one of the patients had a recurrent tumor at the time he was attended. The patients were submitted to surgical excision and cryotherapy, and in 2 patients amniotic membrane was used. Three patients (27%) had recurrences after the surgery, in a mean time of 1,6 months (1-3 mo). Two patients received MMC 0,02% drops in attempt to treat the recurrence, one successfully, and the others had new surgery. One of them required enucleation at the end. According to their immunological status, 7 patients had a high CD4 count at the time of the diagnosis, 1 had a low CD4 count, and there was no information about 3 patients. The mean follow up was 9,4 months (1-30 mo). Conclusion: In this group of patients, the conjunctival SCC occurred in young individuals. The recurrence rates were higher compared to the literature, and occurred very early. Frequent examination in these patients is required after surgical excision to diagnosis this recurrences. There was no relation between the immunological status of the patients and the behavior of the tumor. More studies are necessary to know the role of HIV in the conjunctival SCC.