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### **Correlation between impression cytology and histopathological analysis in epithelial conjunctival lesions**

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**Purpose:** To compare the results of impression cytology (IC) and histopathological analysis in epithelial conjunctival lesions. **Patients and Methods:** Fifteen cases of epithelial conjunctival lesions previously examined by impression cytology and sent to the Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory (UNIFESP) between 2001 and 2004 were studied. The specimens were formaline fixed and paraffine embedded and the glass slides were stained by H&E (hematoxylin and eosin). The presence of atypical cells defined as pleomorphism, high nuclear cytoplasmic ratio and hyperchromasia was considered a positive feature in impression cytology. **Results:** Nine (60%) of the 15 cases were female and 6 (40%) were male and age ranging from 18 - 76 years (median 52 years). Five cases were histopathologically diagnosed as epithelial neoplasia; from these 5 cases, 3 had a positive IC and 2 had no atypical cell observed. Three cases that were diagnosed as actinic keratosis the IC showed atypical cells. Six cases were diagnosed as pterygium, one had atypia described in the IC that was not confirmed in the histopathological analysis. One case that was diagnosed as conjunctival inflammation had atypia in the IC diagnosis. **Conclusion:** There was agreement between impression cytology and histopathological analysis in cases (73%). The impression cytology represents a non- or minimally invasive exam of the ocular surface epithelium without the side effects or contraindications of a biopsy. The exam also helps suggesting a diagnosis before a more invasive procedure.