

Abstract**A case of Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the tongue in a 26 year old lady with no detectable risk factors**Bandaranayake BMVC^{1*}, Abeygunasekara PH¹, Bandaranayake BMCA²¹National Cancer Institute, Maharagama, Sri Lanka²Dental Hospital, Peradeniya**Abstract****Background**

Oral cancer incidence in Sri Lanka is 1813/100,000 with male to female ratio, 3.55:1 and commonest after 55 years of age. SCC involves >90% of oral cancers. Oral SCC in young age shows weaker relationship with risk factors and more aggressive clinical course.

Case Description

26 year old girl with no detectable risk factors for oral SCC, was presented with 2 month history of non healing solitary ulcer in the anterior 2/3rd of the left side of the tongue. She had been treated for an aphthous ulcer initially and due to poor response undergone excision. Excision biopsy revealed well differentiated SCC with positive margins. Radiologically no suspicious neck lymph nodes were detected. Disease was staged as II (T2N0M0). Following multidisciplinary discussion, further excision with Supra Omohyoid Block Dissection performed. She recovered uneventfully. Histology confirmed the primary diagnosis with negative nodes, and underwent adjuvant treatment with brachytherapy.

Discussion

This patient did not give a history of alcohol consumption, tobacco use or betel chewing, which are the commonest risk factors. Examination did not show any dental abnormalities causing chronic local irritation. Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) infection is a well known risk factor of oral SCC in the west especially among young patients. Even though she denies of sexual contact HPV testing would be still beneficial, but difficult in the local setup.

Conclusions

This highlights the need of early precise diagnosis, providing better prognosis, chance of better survival and quality of life for patient with SCC.

Key words: Squamous Cell Cancer; Young Female; HPV**Copyright:**© 2015 Bandaranayake BMVC *et al*. This is an open access article distributed under the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.* **Correspondence** : vathsal_b@hotmail.com

Cite this abstract as: Bandaranayake BMVC, Abeygunasekara PH, Bandaranayake BMCA. A case of Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the tongue in a 26 year old lady with no detectable risk factors. *Anuradhapura Medical Journal* 2015;9 (2Supp):S17.

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4038/amj.v9i2Supp.7566>

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