**Кeratinizing pleomorphic adenoma of parotid salivary glands: analysis of three cases from practice**

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**Background and objective.** Pleomorphic adenoma (РА) of parotid salivary glands (PSG) with squamous metaplasia, keratin cysts formation (keratinizing PA) is not common and causes difficulties in diagnosis. The objective was to analyze three cases from practice of keratinizing PA of parotid salivary glands.

**Methods.** Surgical material from two women and one man with keratinizing PA was studied. The mean patients’ age was 36.3±2.1 years. In two cases, primary surgical treatment was performed, in one case – secondary, due to relapse. During examination it was noted in PSG a painless nodule of dense consistency in diameter from 1.5 to 4.5 cm. Histological, histochemical methods were used.

**Results.** Macroscopically in three cases the nodes on the cut were of whitish-pinkish color with cyst formation. Microscopically, the tumor was characterized by the predominance of the parenchymal (epithelial) component over the mesenchymal (stromal) one. The epithelial component was represented by epithelial, myoepithelial cells. Epithelial cells were of basaloid, spindle-cell, squamous, clear-cell type. They formed nests, strands with numerous foci of squamous metaplasia and keratinous cysts lined by squamous epithelium and containing eosinophilic keratin substance. The stroma was represented by connective tissue, vessels and myxoid, chondroid, osteoid, mucoid zones. In two cases, the tumor was surrounded by a distinct fibrous capsule with tumor invasion; in one case the capsule was absent.

**Conclusions.** Morphological diagnosis of keratinizing PA causes certain difficulties for pathologists and requires a differential diagnosis with mucoepidermoid carcinoma, necrotizing sialometaplasia, squamous cell carcinoma. In the studied cases, morphological examination revealed a keratinizing PA of PSG with a predominance of the epithelial component over the mesenchymal one. The presence the relapse in one case in anamnesis; tumor invasion into the capsule in two cases, absence the capsule in one case indicate that keratinizing PA is prone to recurrence.