

Histopathological analysis of non-squamous cell malignancies of the uterine cervix in Maiduguri, Nigeria

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Summary

Carcinoma of the uterine cervix is the most common gynaecological malignancy in the developing world despite being largely preventable. The non-squamous cancers of the cervix have not been properly documented in our setting. This study is aimed at reviewing the histological types of non-squamous cell cancers of the uterine cervix in relation to the age of presentation, and to analyze some of the histopathological features of adenocarcinomas. Cases of cancer of the cervix histologically diagnosed between January 1989 and December 2004 were extracted from the cancer register of the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital. The request forms, slides, and some tissue blocks were retrieved from the archives of the Histopathology Department. The cases were histologically reviewed and the data analyzed using simple statistical methods. A total of 491 cases of cervical cancers were diagnosed. Of these, 432(88.0%) cases were squamous cell carcinomas while 59(12.0%) were non-squamous cell malignancies. Out of the 59 non-squamous cervical cancers, 42(71.2%) were endocervical-type adenocarcinomas, while serous papillary, clear cell, and adenosquamous carcinomas comprised 2(3.4%) cases each. Seven (11.9%) cases were metastatic choriocarcinomas. Over 60% of these cases occurred within the third and fourth decades of life. Adenocarcinomas are the most common non-squamous malignancies of the cervix and their age of presentation was similar to that of their squamous cell counterpart. Haemorrhage and lymphocytic infiltrates were significantly associated with tumour grade while necrosis was independent of tumour grade.

Keywords: *Carcinoma of the cervix; Adenocarcinoma; Histopathology*

Résumé

Le carcinome du cervix utérin est un cancer gynécologique commun dans les pays sous développés bien que prévenable. Les cancers des cellules non squameuses du cervix n'ont pas été proprement documentés dans cette zone. Cette étude avait pour but de revoir les registres des types histologiques des cancers des cellules non squameuse du cervical en fonction de l'âge de présentations et l'analyse de certaines gouttes épaisses histologiques des adreocarcinome au centre universitaire hospitalier de Maiduguri, entre Janvier 1989 á Décembre 2004. Au total 491 cas de cancer cervical étaient diagnostiques. 422 (88%) cas étaient des cellules squameuse carcinome, tandis que 59(12%) étaient des cellules non squameuse cancéreuse. Sur les 59 cas non squameux, 42(71.2%) étaient des adreocarcinome endocervical de type alors que les papillaires séreuse, claire et carcinome adenosquameuse étaient de 2(3.4%). Sept (11.9%) des cas étaient des métastatiques choriocarcinome. Plus de 60% des cas apparaissent entre le 3ieme et 4ieme dizaine de vie. Adreocarcinomes sont les cancers les plus commun non squameux du cervix et leur age de présentation était semblable á ceux des cellules squameuse. Hémorragie et les infiltrations lymphocytaires étaient significativement associés avec diverse degré de tumeurs alors que la nécrose était indépendant des grades de tumeur.

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