

Salivary Gland Tumours

I. GROSS DESCRIPTION

Specimen

- parotid/submandibular/sublingual/minor (oral).
- conservative superficial/radical parotidectomy, submandibulectomy, excision of oral tumour (sublingual glands, or minor salivary glands of mucosal origin), neck dissection.
- size (cm) and weight (g).
- salivary gland tumours present as persistent unilateral enlargement the majority of which are in the parotid gland and are benign. There is a higher incidence of carcinoma arising in the submandibular glands, sublingual and minor glands of the oral cavity. Investigation is plain X-ray (for calculus), ultrasound scan (for cystic lesions), CT and MRI scan (for tumour stage). FNA is the method of choice in obtaining a likely tissue diagnosis for the purposes of planning operative management. Surgical treatment is by partial or total excision of the gland to include the tumour mass with a surround of either salivary gland tissue or soft tissues. Parotid tumours may also require excision of the skin and soft tissues of the side of the face and upper neck.

Tumour

Site

- salivary gland/nodal.
- parotid gland: superficial or deep lobe (subdivided by the plane of the facial nerve). Most arise in the superficial lobe.
- bilateral: Warthin's tumour, pleomorphic adenoma, acinic cell carcinoma.

Size

- length × width × depth (cm) or maximum dimension (cm).

Appearance

- solid/cystic.
- mucoid/chondroid/necrotic/fleshy/scirrhus.

Edge

- circumscribed/irregular: presence of macroscopic extraglandular extension.

Gland

- intra-salivary lymph nodes/nerves.

2. HISTOLOGICAL TYPE**Adenomas**

- pleomorphic; 70% of salivary gland tumours, 80% in the parotid.
- myoepithelioma.
- basal cell.
- Warthin's tumour (adenolymphoma).
- oncocytoma.
- canalicular.
- sebaceous.
- ductal papilloma (inverted/intra-ductal/sialadenoma papilliferum).
- cystadenoma (papillary/mucinous).

Carcinomas

- acinic cell.
- mucoepidermoid: low-grade/well differentiated, high-grade/poorly differentiated.
- adenoid cystic: cribriform/tubular/solid.
- polymorphous low-grade.
- epithelial/myoepithelial.
- salivary duct.
- basal cell.
- sebaceous.
- oncocytic.
- papillary cystadenocarcinoma.
- mucinous (colloid).
- adenocarcinoma, not otherwise specified (NOS).
- squamous.
- carcinoma in pleomorphic adenoma (ex-PSA) usually adenocarcinoma, no special type.
- myoepithelial: spindle/clear cell types.
- lymphoepithelial.
- small cell.
- undifferentiated.
- carcinosarcoma.

Lymphoma

- extranodal lymphoma of salivary gland (MALToma).
- lymphoma of salivary gland nodes (nodal lymphoma).

Metastatic carcinoma

- squamous cell carcinoma of head and neck region and upper aerodigestive tract, malignant melanoma from scalp or facial skin, renal cell