Reviewer's report

Title: Solid type primary intraosseous squamous cell carcinoma in the maxilla: report of a new case

Version: 1
Date: 18 November 2013

Reviewer: Nikolaos Nikitakis

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This paper describes a relatively rare case of primary intraosseous squamous cell carcinoma (PIOSCC) solid type of the anterior maxilla. This is a well written paper with adequate documentation. As the authors emphasize, the localization in the anterior mandible is less common compared to the mandible. Considering the rarity of this presentation and the differential diagnostic difficulties of this tumor, especially the need for differentiating it from a primary mucosal (oral or nasal) and a metastatic SCC, this paper is useful.

A few comments for consideration and possible further improvement are provided:

1) Instead of, or in addition to, the used numerical system, teeth should be better identified more precisely, for example #13 as the right upper canine and so on.

2) Panoramic radiograph does not provide accurate information on the extent of the lesion in the anterior maxilla. The described “severe bony resorption between teeth #15 and #22” is not clearly seen. A dental cone-beam CT scan would be useful at the initial stage of investigation.

3) A photograph of the nasal endoscopic findings of “a mass without mucosal ulceration” could be added.

4) It should be specified where the incisional biopsy was taken: only from the overlying mucosa or intraosseously too? Did the surgeons observe an intact cortex?

5) Did the PET scan reveal the positive cervical lymph node?

6) An additional photomicrograph of the surgical specimen showing the tumor islands extending within bone would be useful.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'