Reviewer’s report

Title: Granular cell tumors of the tongue: fibroma or schwannoma

Version: 0 Date: 09 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Anthony Markus

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for submitting this well written and presented paper on granular cell tumours of the tongue, often mis-diagnosed clinically, as fibromas.

Your introduction, description of the methodology of your study, results and discussion are very good. References all in order. Tables and Figs good.

Line 200: Declarations should be Declarations.

Table 1 is comprehensive and nicely summarizes your paragraph on immunohistological stains, so the paragraph could be omitted. Just leave the heading and make reference to the Table.

In your discussion, you are somewhat vague about malignant transformation. To what sort of malignant lesion would these tumours transform? Clearly, pseudoepitheliomatous hyperplasia was noted. As you know, this histological finding is sometimes confused with squamous cell carcinoma. Perhaps you should make further comment.

Finally, I think this is a good opportunity to raise awareness of this peculiar lesion. The title could be modified to bring it to the attention of a wider clinical audience, perhaps by adding something along the lines of a question:

Immunohistological characteristics of granular cell tumors in the tongue - fibroma or schwannoma. Please give this some thought.

Please make the necessary changes so that we can proceed rapidly to publication.

Level of interest

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field.

Declaration of competing interests

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