



Respiratory papillomatosis - An unusual cause of hoarseness!

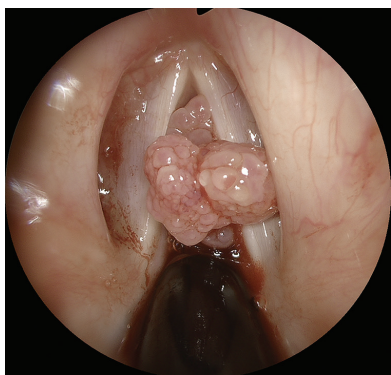


Fig. 1. Endoscopic image showing the classical appearance of pedunculated papilloma attached to the right true vocal cord.

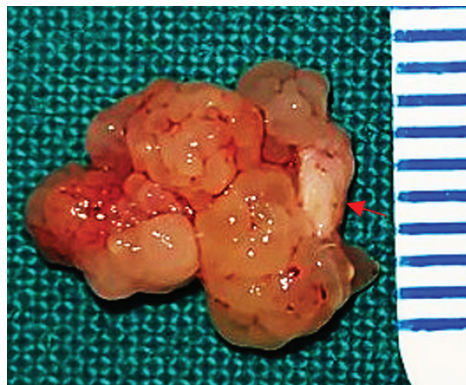


Fig. 2. Post-excision of papilloma; arrow indicating the attachment site (red arrow).

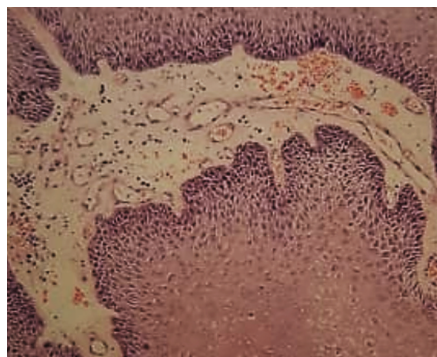


Fig. 3. Histopathology showing multiple finger-like projections with hyperkeratotic stratified squamous epithelium and fibrovascular core without any dysplasia suggestive of squamous papillomas (H and E, ×400).

A 27 yr old female[†] presented to department of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Surgery, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India, in September 2019, with progressive hoarseness and occasional difficulty in breathing for

one year duration. On physical examination, there was a large pedunculated exophytic papilloma in the right true vocal cord moving with respiration and partially obstructing the airway (Fig. 1). The patient underwent laser microsurgery and complete excision

[†]Patient's consent obtained to publish clinical information and images.

of the papilloma (Fig. 2). Histopathology revealed multiple finger-like projections with hyperkeratotic stratified squamous epithelium and fibrovascular core without any dysplasia suggestive of squamous papillomas (Fig. 3) and human papilloma virus type 6 and 11 was detected on the polymerase chain reaction assay. Respiratory papillomas are benign neoplasms caused by human papilloma virus (type 6 and 11) and most commonly involves the larynx. At three month follow up, the patient is asymptomatic and had no recurrence. Surgical debulking remains

the mainstay of treatment as recurrences are not uncommon.

Conflicts of Interest: None.

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