

EVALUATION OF TRANSFORMING GROWTH FACTOR ALPHA (TGF- α) IMMUNOREACTIVITY IN SOME BENIGN AND MALIGNANT SALIVARY GLAND TUMORS

Hamed M.A. Fouad* and Zeinab Darwish*

ABSTRACT

Transforming Growth, Factor Alpha (TGF- α) is expressed in both normal and malignant epithelial cells. Although the expression of TGF- α has been extensively studied in some human epithelial neoplasms, few reports have been published concerning its expression in salivary gland tumors. The aim of this work is to study the immunological presence of TGF- α in benign and malignant salivary gland tumors. The present work was carried out on 27 biopsies of salivary gland tumors divided as follows: pleomorphic adenoma (6), adenolymphoma (4), malignant pleomorphic adenoma (4), adenoidcystic carcinoma (6), mucoepidermal carcinoma (4) and acinic cell carcinoma (3). Five biopsies of normal salivary gland tissues were included as controls. All cases were examined immunohistochemically using a monoclonal anti-TGF- α antibody. The results showed weak to negative reaction in the benign tumors and moderate to strong staining in the malignant ones. The over expression of TGF- α in malignant salivary gland tumors may represent an underlying mechanism of the development and progression of these tumors.

*Assistant Professor, Oral Pathology Department, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Alexandria.