

## Ancient schwannoma of the tongue: a case report

### Dilin ancient schwannoması: Olgu sunumu

Suat Bilici, M.D.,<sup>1</sup> Meltem Akpınar, M.D.,<sup>1</sup> Özgür Yiğit, M.D.,<sup>1</sup> Feray Günver, M.D.<sup>2</sup>

Departments of <sup>1</sup>Otolaryngology, <sup>2</sup>Pathology, İstanbul Training and Research Hospital, İstanbul, Turkey

A 45-year-old male patient had left sided submucosal swelling extending backwards from the tip of the tongue disturbing articulation and swallowing. Submucosally located lesion was 3x2x1.5 cm in size and totally excised under local anesthesia. In this article, we present a case of ancient schwannoma of tongue. Although a very rare entity, ancient schwannoma should be considered in differential diagnosis of tongue lesions.

**Key Words:** Ancient schwannoma; schwannoma; tongue.

Kırk beş yaşında erkek hastada dilin sol tarafında, artikülasyon ve yutma bozukluğuna neden olan ve dilin uç kısmından arkaya doğru uzanan submukozal şişlik vardı. Submukozal yerleşimli ve 3x2x1.5 cm boyutlarındaki lezyon lokal anestezi altında total olarak eksize edildi. Bu yazıda, dilin bir ancient schwannoma olgusu sunuldu. Ancient schwannoma oldukça nadir görülmesine rağmen dil lezyonlarının ayırıcı tanısında akılda tutulmalıdır.

**Anahtar Sözcükler:** Ancient schwannoma; schwannom; dil.

The schwannomas (neurinoma, neurilemmoma) are slowly growing benign tumors originating from cranial and peripheral nerve sheaths.<sup>[1]</sup> They are most common in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> decades of life with no sex predominance. Twenty-five to forty percent are located extracranially in the head and neck region. They are rarely encountered in the oral cavity (1%) with the lateral tongue the most common site of localization followed by the palate, floor of mouth, buccal mucosa, lip and teeth.<sup>[2,3]</sup> Malignant transformation is rare. Ancient schwannoma is a histological variant of schwannoma.<sup>[4]</sup> Only few cases of ancient schwannoma have been reported previously in the tongue region but a case of isolated ancient schwannoma in the tongue has not been reported.

### CASE REPORT

A 45-year-old male patient presented with the complaint of left sided swelling on the dorsum and tip of the tongue with gradual increase in size in the last 10 months (Figure 1). The patient had progressive paresthesia and difficulty in articulation. The lesion was 3x2x1.5 cm in size and submucosally located. It had a firm consistency and irregular surface on palpation (Figure 2). The histopathological diagnosis was reported as ancient schwannoma following total excision under local anesthesia. Macroscopically the lesion was well demarcated and encapsulated. Schwann cells displaying degenerative atypia with large, hyperchromatic and multilobulated nucleus were observed (Figure 3). The hyalinization