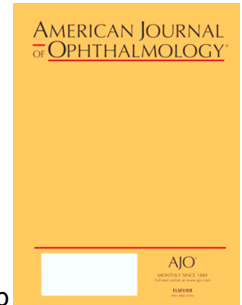


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Conjunctival Tumors in 5002 Cases. Comparative Analysis of Benign versus Malignant Counterparts. The 2016 James D. Allen Lecture

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Abstract

Purpose: To evaluate frequency of conjunctival tumors in all ages and compare benign versus (vs) malignant counterparts.

Design: Retrospective series.

Methods:

Setting: Tertiary referral center

Study population: 5002 patients

Observation: Clinical features

Main Outcome Measure: Differentiation benign from malignant counterparts

Results: The tumor was benign (52%), premalignant (18%), or malignant (30%). Malignant tumors included melanoma (12%), squamous cell carcinoma (9%), lymphoma (7%), and others. Comparison of PAM vs melanoma revealed melanoma with greater median patient age (54 vs 61 years, $p<0.0001$), male sex (35% vs 49%, $p<0.0001$), location in fornix (2% vs 6%, $p=0.0016$) and tarsus (1% vs 4%, $p=0.0018$), larger median basal diameter (6 vs 8 mm, $p<0.0001$) and thickness (<1 vs 1 mm, $p<0.0001$), and intralesional cysts (0% vs 7%, $p<0.0001$), feeder vessels (10% vs 48%, $p<0.0001$), intrinsic vessels (4% vs 33%, $p<0.0001$), and hemorrhage ($<1\%$ vs 3%, $p=0.0001$). Comparison of CIN vs SCC revealed SCC with greater diffuse involvement (1% vs 8%, $p<0.0001$), and larger median basal diameter (7 vs 8 mm, $p<0.0001$) and thickness (1 mm vs 2 mm, $p<0.0001$). Comparison of BRLH vs lymphoma revealed lymphoma with greater median patient age (50 vs 61 years, $p<0.0001$), fornix location (32% vs 54%, $p<0.0001$), larger median basal diameter (10 vs 20 mm, $p<0.0001$) and less involvement of nasal region (50% vs 23%, $p<0.0001$).

Conclusion: In an ocular oncology practice, conjunctival tumors are benign (52%), premalignant (18%), or malignant (30%). Malignant tumors tend to occur in older patients and demonstrate greater basal diameter and thickness, compared to benign counterparts.

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