

Mandibular Gingival Metastasis from a Rectal Adenocarcinoma

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The extreme rarity of gingival metastases from large bowel malignancies¹⁻³ prompted us to report this case.

Report of a Case

An 80-year-old man was admitted to the otorhinolaryngology clinic because of a painless gingival mass of approximately one week's duration in the region of the mandibular left premolar tooth. He stated that he had "lost the tooth" one week ago. Two days later he had felt a soft mass in the same region. Examination disclosed a soft, bilobular, deep red, painless, hemorrhagic tumor (Fig. 1). Results from the complete blood count, urine analysis, blood chemistries, and serological studies were within normal limits. A chest radiograph, a radiograph of the mandible, and a long bone survey revealed no abnormalities. The tumor was excised, and the remnants of the periodontal membrane were removed. Histologic examination revealed a clear-cell carcinoma (Fig. 2). Sigmoidoscopy showed a hemorrhagic tumor 5 cm from the anus. Biopsy of the mass revealed the presence of a clear-cell adenocarcinoma (Fig. 3).