



## Medical Imagery

## Human papillomavirus oral lesions in an antiretroviral therapy non-compliant HIV-infected woman



## ARTICLE INFO

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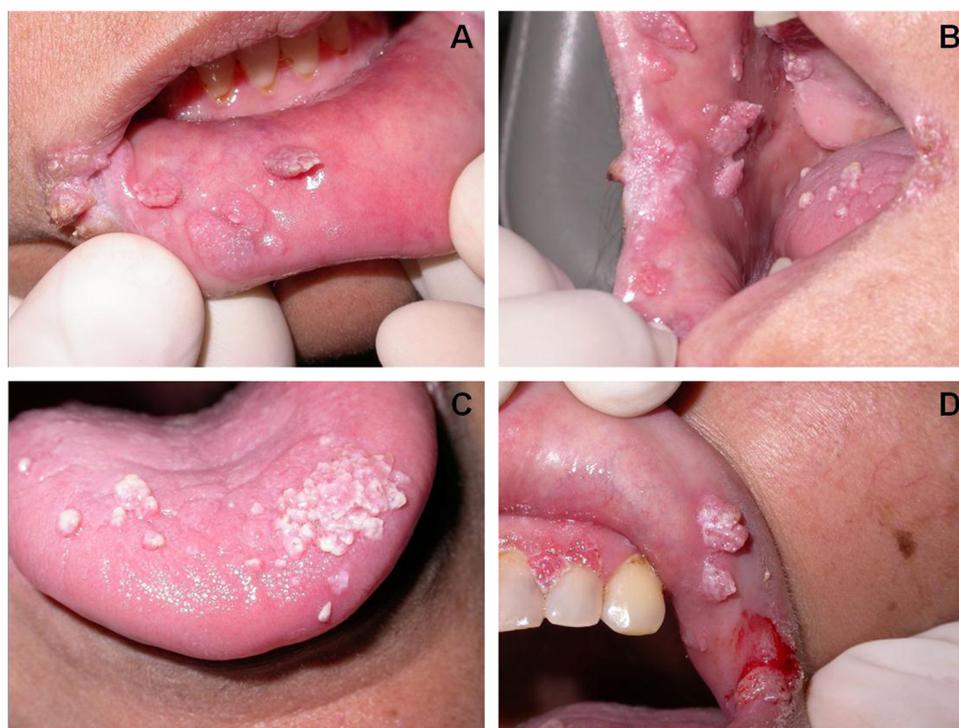
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A 39-year-old, HIV-infected female patient was referred to the stomatology service for evaluation of several lesions all over the oral mucosa, suggestive of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection. The lesions had been present for about 6

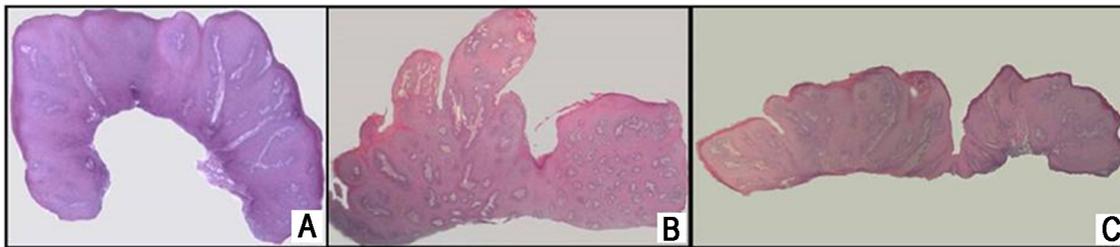
months and there were no genital lesions. The HIV infection had been diagnosed 5 years earlier. She had been using highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) without protease inhibitor, but on an irregular basis. Her viral load was below the



**Figure 1.** Multiple normochromic nodular lesions with a papillary surface on the lip mucosa (A) and buccal mucosa (B). Several whitish coalescing nodules could be observed on the tongue (C). All varied from 0.2 cm to 1.0 cm in size. Surgical removal (D) of all lesions was planned, but after two sessions, the nodules started to regress spontaneously.

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**Figure 2.** Histopathological examination did not differ much among the lesions removed. A papillomatous proliferation was noted, with more prominent acanthosis when compared to papillomatosis. A fibrovascular core was observed in all of them, as well as hyperorthokeratosis (A–C).

minimum threshold of 50 copies/ml and her CD4+T lymphocyte count was 275 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>. Multiple papillomatous lesions of the oral mucosa on an erythematous surface and tongue lesions of varying sizes, measuring from 0.2 cm to 1 cm, were observed (Figures 1 and 2). Histological examination enabled a diagnosis of condyloma acuminata for some lesions, while an immunohistochemical examination was negative for HPV. Condylomas present 75% to 85% positivity in HPV investigation by immunohistochemistry (Lima et al., 2014). Improvements in adherence to HAART led to a CD4+T lymphocyte count increase to 488 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>. She presented no recurrence during 2 years of follow-up. Improvements in adherence to HAART may lead to a reduction in HPV oral lesions (dos Reis et al., 2014; Dos Reis et al., 2009; Ferraro et al., 2011), although some studies have suggested that the prevalence of HPV oral lesions may increase in the HAART era (Anaya-Saavedra et al., 2013) due to immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome (Shiboski et al., 2016).

#### Conflict of interest

We declare no conflict of interest.

#### Funding

There was no funding source.

#### Ethical approval

The project was approved by the ethics committee.

#### Author contributions

Concept and design: SPO, DRC, and HLBR. Acquisition of the data: HLBR, SPO, and DRC. Drafting of the article: HLBR, SPO, and DRC. Critical revisions for important intellectual content: HLBR, SPO, DCF, DRC, and NATB. Final approval of the version to be published: HLBR, SPO, DRC, and DCF. All authors gave constructive comments during writing and substantially contributed to, and approved, the final manuscript.

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