

Answer

C.

Junctional nevi are macular lesions in their evolutionary stage with minimal proliferation. They should not exist in adults and when present, premalignant change should be suspected and biopsy has to be done.

Take home points

This patient's oral lesion was biopsied and found to be a Primary Mucosal melanoma (PMM). Primary Mucosal melanoma (PMM), a disease with increasing incidence in last decade, is usually seen between 3rd-8th decade. The oral cavity is the second most common site of PMM in the head and neck region, constituting 0.5% of all oral malignancies. They are different from cutaneous melanoma in clinicopathologic features and have poor prognosis due to difficult local and distant control despite aggressive treatment with surgery and chemoradiotherapy. Asymptomatic lesions and early involvement of underlying bone causes presentation in advanced stage. Therefore any suspicious nevi or pigmented lesion in oral cavity should undergo histopathological examination. Lesions <2mm size and <0.5mm depth have good prognosis.

References:

1. Manigandan T, Sagar GV, Amudhan A, Hemalatha VT, Babu NA. Oral malignant melanoma: A case report with review of literature. *Contemp Clin Dent* 2014;5:415-8.
2. Lopez F, Rodrigo JP, Cardesa A, Triantafyllou A, Devaney KO, Mendenhall WM, et al. Update on primary head and neck mucosal melanoma. *Head and Neck* 2014 Accepted Article : doi: 10.1002/hed.23872