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This Week's Citation Classic

Chaudhry A P, Vickers R A & Gorlin R J. Intraoral minor salivary gland tumors: an analysis of 1,414 cases. *Oral Surg. Oral Med. Oral Patho.* 14:1194-226, 1961. [School of Dentistry, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN]

This study was based on the clinical features, microscopic characteristics, treatment, and prognosis of a large series of 1,414 cases of intraoral minor salivary gland tumors. The most prevalent tumor was pleomorphic adenoma followed by cylindromatous adenocarcinoma, mucoepidermoid, and adenocarcinoma (conventional type). The palate was the site of predilection for all these lesions. Intraoral low-grade mucoepidermoid tumors far exceeded high-grade tumors and responded favorably to adequate local excision. [The *SCI*® indicates that this paper has been cited in over 125 publications since 1961, making it the second most-cited paper published in this journal.]

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"In the early-1950s, the histopathologic classification of the major salivary gland tumors and their correlation with biological behavior, treatment modalities, and prognosis were in disarray and undergoing dramatic revisions in the US. Buxton, Maxwell, and French[1] had published their classical work on epithelial tumors of the parotid glands at the University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor, Michigan. At the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, Foote and Frazell[2] had reviewed the largest series of cases of major salivary gland tumors. Their work emerged as the most authoritative on the subject and formed the basis for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology fascicle.[3]

"It was during 1951-1953, as a resident in oral surgery at the University Hospital at Michigan, that I had the good fortune of attending numerous seminars, discussions, and clinical pathologic conferences on salivary gland tumors. This was the beginning of my interest in the subject which continued while I was a doctoral candidate in experimental pathology at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. In 1958, Robert J. Gorlin provided the necessary incentive, encouragement, and intellectual stimulus to undertake this project. However, it was the late dean, William J. Crawford, who was the inspiring force behind this project. He expected the most and the best of academic excellence in his younger faculty. In 1960, Robert A. Vickers joined the division of oral pathology. He added a new impetus, enthusiasm, and a sense of purpose to the project.

"At that time, knowledge on the subject of intraoral minor salivary gland tumors was still fragmentary and lagged behind what was known about major salivary gland tumors. This was largely due to the much lower incidence of minor salivary gland tumors, roughly 1:10 as compared to major salivary gland tumors. In addition, much of the literature was based on single case reports or small series of cases. This resulted in disparate or contradictory information. This paper has been highly cited for several reasons. As Gorlin has stated, 'This paper was so comprehensive and one of the first to deal with an area of investigation that had heretofore been neglected.' Vickers has added, 'This paper evaluated a large number of intraoral salivary gland tumors from which emerged several findings of biological significance that are even relevant today.'

"The findings of this work were first presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Oral Pathology in 1961 at the University of Michigan. A.J. French, professor and chairman of the department of pathology, University of Michigan School of Medicine, was in attendance at this meeting. His favorable and generous comments provided an incentive to submit this material for publication.

"I have maintained an active research interest in the embryogenesis, regeneration, and neoplasia of the major and minor salivary glands at the cellular and subcellular levels. My most recent work is related to the pathogenesis of various salivary gland diseases and the role myoepithelium plays."[4]

1. **Buxton R W, Maxwell J H & French A J.** Surgical treatment of epithelial tumors of the parotid gland. *Surg. Gynecol. Obstet.* 97:401-16, 1953.
2. **Foote F W, Jr. & Frazell E L.** Tumors of the major salivary glands. *Cancer* 6:1065-133, 1953.
3. ----------. *Tumors of the major salivary glands.* Washington, DC: Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, 1954. 149 p.
4. **Chaudhry A P, Satchidanand S, Peer R & Cutler L S.** Myoepithelial cell adenoma of the parotid gland: a light and ultrastructural study. *Cancer* 49:288-93, 1982.