The Daily Dose: Study Tips for Exam and Board Preparation

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The Daily Dose: salivary gland pathology EXERCISE

For the exercise on salivary gland pathology, I provided participants with 4 salivary gland histopathology cases. The diagnoses were provided:

- basal cell adenoma of the palate
- polymorphous carcinoma of the palate (this term has replaced 'polymorphous low grade adenocarcinoma' in the new nomenclature)
- secretory carcinoma of the parotid (this term has replaced 'mammary analog secretory carcinoma' in the new nomenclature)
- myoepithelial carcinoma of the cheek

The exercise:

Pretend the IHC and other tests aren't provided and develop a diagnosis line

Describe both the IHC provided and any additional stains that may be considered and describe what each IHC stain or set is intended to add to the case, for example:

- \$100, SMA and high molecular weight cytokeratins as potential myoepithelial markers
- DOG1 as a marker which may favor acinic cell adenocarcinoma
- mammaglobin as a marker which may favor (mammary analog) secretory carcinoma (and turns out may be present, weak and patchy, in polymorphous adenocarcinoma)
 and so forth

I included some references that pertain to some of these more challenging salivary tumors and also suggested AFIP Fascicle 9 Tumors of the Salivary Glands (focusing on the images and the IHC) and Hellquist and Skalova's text Histopathology of the Salivary Glands (with the same focus on images and IHC):

Seethala R, Stenman G. Update from the 4th Edition of the World Health Organization Classification of Head and Neck Tumours: Tumors of the Salivary Gland. Head and Neck Pathol (2017) 11:55–67

Seethala R. Basaloid/blue salivary gland tumors. Modern Pathology (2017) 30, S84-S95

Rooper R et.al. Polymorphous Low Grade Adenocarcinoma has a Consistent p63+/p402 Immunophenotype that Helps Distinguish it from Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma and Cellular Pleomorphic Adenoma. Head and Neck Pathol (2015) 9:79–84

Skalova A et.al. Mammary Analogue Secretory Carcinoma of Salivary Glands, Containing the ETV6-NTRK3 Fusion Gene: A Hitherto Undescribed Salivary Gland Tumor Entity. Am J Surg Pathol 2010;34:599–608

Skalova A et.al. Newly described salivary tumors. Modern Pathology (2017) 30, S27-S43

Soon G, Petersson F. Myoepithelial Carcinoma of the Nasopharynx: Report of a Rare Case and a Review of the Literature. Head and Neck Pathol (2015) 9:474–480