

Images in Clinical Hematology

Oral lesions associated with Fanconi anemia



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A middle-aged man complained of symptomatic oral lesions. Family history was positive for Fanconi anemia (FA). An intra-oral examination revealed generalized erythroleukoplakia with focal ulcerations affecting the palate (Figure 1). Differential diagnosis included lichenoid lesions, dysplasia and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC). Previous biopsies demonstrated mild to moderate dysplasia. The patient underwent genetic testing and was diagnosed with FA.

FA is an autosomal recessive disorder characterized by physical abnormalities, bone marrow failure and predisposition to hematologic and solid malignancies.¹ Oral findings associated with FA include mucosal lesions, periodontal disease and dental anomalies.² FA patients are considered high-risk for oral SCC.³



Figure 1 – Generalized erythroleukoplakia with focal ulcerations affecting the hard and soft palate.

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Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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