



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

LACK OF ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SKIN TAG AND HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS

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Background: Little is known about the pathogenesis of skin tag. However, the association between infection with human papillomavirus (HPV) and skin tag has been suggested to date.

Objective: The present study was aimed to analyze the biological relevance on human papillomavirus in the pathogenesis of skin tag.

Materials and Methods: Skin specimens were retrieved from 20 patients with skin tag and further analyzed. Immunostaining with anti-HPV antibody was performed in all specimens. In addition, real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) based HPV genotyping test was conducted in all specimens.

Results: There was no immunoreactivity with the anti-HPV staining. Moreover, RT-PCR based HPV genotyping in all specimens. The presence of HPV DNA was not observed in all specimens of skin tags.

Conclusions: This is the first study reporting the lack of association between skin tag and HPV infection. Although further study is needed, we think that this finding might be helpful for revealing the pathogenesis of skin tag.

