



# Mutational and Immunologic Landscape in Malignant Salivary Gland Tumours Harbour the Potential for Novel Therapeutic Strategies

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## DESCRIPTION

The salivary glands produce saliva to moisturize the mouth, protect teeth from spoilage, and digest food. Saliva flows into the mouth through a small tube called a duct. Stones block the flow of saliva, which makes it more painful to eat. Common viral infections cause fever, headaches, muscle aches, and joint pains throughout the body. When the virus colonizes the parotid glands, both halves of the face in front of the ears expand. A common cyst on the inside of the lower lip, a mucous cyst, can rupture and drain the yellow mucus. Other cysts can prevent you from eating, talking, or swallowing. In the case of a tumour, a cancerous or benign lump may develop on the roof of the mouth, cheeks, tongue, or under the chin. It often grows slowly and is painful. Sjogren's syndrome reduces glandular water. Possible symptoms include dry mouth, tooth decay, stomatitis, enlarged salivary glands, salivary glands, and recurrent salivary gland infections. The syndrome also affects eye water and can lead to chronic eye infections, corneal ulcers, and loss of vision. Sialadenitis is usually painless, but the delusional glands expand. Stones may form from the salt contained in saliva. Stones can form especially when people become dehydrated or take medications that reduce saliva production. Salivary gland stones are most common in adults. About 25% of people who have stones have more than one. Saliva stones cause problems when blocking the ducts that carry saliva from the glands to the mouth. The obstruction causes saliva to accumulate in the duct and cause the salivary glands to swell painfully. Glands filled with obstructed tubes and stagnant saliva can become infected with bacteria. A typical symptom of obstruction of the salivary canal is swelling and pain in the affected glands. After eating, especially if you eat something that stimulates saliva production, you will not be able to drain saliva and the glands will swell, which will exacerbate the pain and swelling. The swelling can go down after a few hours and the ducts can release

a gush of saliva. Some stones do not cause symptoms. The salivary glands produce saliva. Saliva moisturizes the mouth, protects teeth from rapid spoilage, and helps digest food. The salivary glands are relatively small and are found around the inner layers of the mouth, lips, and cheeks. Many illnesses can affect the salivary glands. These range from cancerous tumours to Sjogren's syndrome. While some conditions go away with time or antibiotics, others require more serious treatments, including surgery. A doctor uses your medical history, a physical examination, and laboratory tests to make a diagnosis of a salivary disorder. If your doctor suspects your pain and inflammation are the result of an obstruction in one of the glands, he or she may order X-rays or ultrasound to identify where the obstruction is and what might be causing it. If a mass is found in the salivary gland, your doctor will suggest a CT scan or an MRI to get a better look at the problem. Your doctor might also use a fine needle aspiration biopsy to explore further. A lip biopsy of minor salivary glands may be needed to identify certain autoimmune diseases, such as Sjogren's syndrome. Salivary disorders are treated according to what is causing them, using medical or surgical treatments. If the salivary disorder is caused by systemic disease, then that problem is treated first. This may require a visit to a specialist. If the problem is due to salivary gland obstruction, your doctor might use a local anaesthetic to numb the area so that they can probe and dilate the duct to remove the obstructive stone. If a tumour develops in the salivary glands, your doctor may recommend removing it.

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