

Leukoplakia, symptoms and preventing measures

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Commentary

Leukoplakia is a white patch on the mucous membrane of the mouth which has the increased risk of cancer. The commentary discusses the disease leukoplakia, the symptoms and also the associated preventive measures. This can be prevented from simple measures and also by taking proper care after the effect of Leukoplakia. Leukoplakia is a white patch on the mucous membrane of the mouth which has the increased risk of cancer. The edges of the lesion are unexpected and they do change with respect to the time. If the leukoplakia is strong then it might be reddish in color i.e. reddish patches on the membrane can be observed. It usually occurs in the mouth area, sometimes also seen in the parts of gastrointestinal tract, urinary tract and genitals. There are no any symptoms of this and no specific reasons for this are identified. Some of the identified reasons are due to smoking, tobacco chewing, excessive drinking of alcohol, and the usage of betel nuts. One special type of Leukoplakia is common in HIV/AIDS. In this kind of lesion, there are high chances of developing cancer. The chance of formation of cancer depends on the density of leukoplakia which is defined by using the percentage of the leukoplakia. Tissue biopsy is a test surgeon performs in which they extract a sample of the cells or tissues for examination in order to determine the extent or presence of a disease. After tissue biopsy there are chances of formation of keratin, which is hard to treat. There are other similar formations which can easily be treated compared to that of the leukoplakia. Treatment recommendation depends mostly on the features of the lesion and the intensity of the lesion. If any abnormal cells are present then it's recommended to go for a small surgery. If the surgery is not recommended or not necessary then close follow-ups are really necessary. While in this time, people are advised to stop or quit drinking, smoking. In most of the cases, this shrinks gradually once the smoking is

quit. If smoking is not given up, then there are high risks of worsening the Leukoplakia. It is mostly seen in men crossing 30years and highly seen in men after 50 years of age. These are classified into many types. In the mouth, it is further classified into different types according to the site involved. Homogenous Leukoplakia is usually well defined white patch on the mouth area. It is slightly elevated, textured and wrinkled compared to other types of the leukoplakia. Non-homogenous leukoplakia is not uniform and is predominantly has a mixed color of white and slight red. It is flat and irregular and has a high risk of changing into the cancer. Proliferative verrucous leukoplakia is a subtype of non-homogenous leukoplakia. Sublingual keratosis occurs under the tongue and has textured form and is widely seen type of leukoplakia in people. Oral hairy leukoplakia is a white patch that occurs on the side of tongue with a hairy appearance. It is one of the most identified oral lesions associated with HIV infection. Anal Canal Leukoplakia is rare. Bladder leukoplakia extends to the membrane of the mucous. The causes are not completely identified but leukoplakia is mostly seen in those who smoke, chew tobacco, and drink alcohol excessively. The symptoms are discomfort and pain in the affected area. Leukoplakia may look white, yellow or grey. It might be an extremely small one to a large lesion.

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