



**“ASSESSMENT OF SERUM C-REACTIVE PROTEIN LEVELS
AS A BIOMARKER IN PATIENTS WITH ORAL POTENTIALLY
MALIGNANT LESIONS –A PROSPECTIVE STUDY”**

BY

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES:

Recent advances in understanding the complex tumor interaction have led to the discovery of an association between inflammation and cancer, in particular for colon and lung cancer. Studies are done on oral cancer, but only very few have dealt with oral potentially malignant lesions. Therefore, the aim and objectives of the present study was to estimate the significance of preoperative serum C-reactive protein (CRP) levels as a biomarker in patients with oral potentially malignant lesions.

METHODS:

Total samples consisted of 46 control (group A) and 75 oral potentially malignant subjects [Oral Leukoplakia (group B)-23 subjects, Oral Submucous Fibrosis (group C)-28 subjects And Oral Lichen Planus (group D) - 24 subjects] confirmed by histopathological examination. Serum samples of all the subjects were estimated for CRP.

RESULTS:

Significant difference (p value - 0.03) obtained between the control and group B subjects, also within the different grades of group B and group C subjects.

CONCLUSION:

The results of this study shows that the preoperative serum CRP levels as an independent biomarker strongly associated with subsequent development of oral cancer.

KEY WORDS:

Potentially malignant lesions; CRP; oral leukoplakia; oral submucous fibrosis; oral lichen planus.