22% but can usually be managed by further resection. Distant metastasis or death due to tumor is extremely rare, and as a consequence, PLA has a much better prognosis than other salivary adenocarcinomas.10

The extrapolation of the course of salivary gland PLA to those originating in the lacrimal gland was one of the factors considered in treating our patient. Although exenteration followed by radiotherapy has been advocated for lacrimal adenocarcinomas as a group,1 we elected to treat with exenteration alone on the basis of the known behavior of this tumor. This was in concordance with the management of salivary PLA, which carries an excellent long-term survival rate following local excision alone. Conversely, lacrimal tumors designated as lacrimal adenocarcinomas have, in general, a poor prognosis. In the Heaps et al1 series of 13 patients, 6 died and 3 had recurrent disease. Of the 4 recurrence-free patients, all had been treated with exenteration and radiotherapy. There was, however, no elucidation of histological subtypes in this series; thus, the guidelines for treatment of PLA in the lacrimal gland need further delineation. It is possible that given the favorable outcome of local resection for salivary gland PLA, a more conservative local resection with clear margins may have been adequate treatment in our patient. Nevertheless, some caution is justified in extrapolating management as well as classification from salivary gland tumors to those of the lacrimal gland.

In conclusion, it is evident the difference between the poor outlook ascribed to adenocarcinoma of the lacrimal gland and the prognosis of PLA, at least in the salivary glands, justifies further characterization of this entity within the orbit.

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the neck, suggesting lymphadenopathy. An incisional biopsy specimen showed lymphoid proliferation with germinal centers, periductal fibrosis, and eosinophilic infiltrate, similar to that of his lacrimal gland with the addition of eosinophilic abscesses. A complete blood cell count continued to show an elevated eosinophilic distribution of 23%. A serum IgE level showed hypergamma-globulinemia of 973 IU/mL (reference range, 0/H11021 91 IU/mL). The combination of a neck mass with classic KD histopathological features almost identical to that of his lacrimal gland, persistent peripheral eosinophilia, and elevated IgE levels without any signs of allergic or other systemic process established the diagnosis of KD. The patient was treated with cyclosporine, 100 mg twice daily, for 1 month and prednisone, 10 mg/d, for 6 months and demonstrated moderate improvement of swelling and pain at the last follow-up visit.

Comment. Kimura disease is an inflammatory process whose characteristics may overlap those of ALHE, also known as “epithelioid hemangioma.” Despite confusion in the earlier literature, they are considered 2 distinct clinicopathological diagnoses with different epidemiological, clinical, and histopathological characteristics.1,2 Kimura disease almost exclusively affects young Asian males,1,4,5 ranging in age from 2 through 59 years.1,5 In contrast, ALHE predominates in the West, particularly affecting white women in early to middle adult life.1,6 Kimura disease typically manifests as firm subcutaneous nodules that commonly involve the periauricular, parotid, or submandibular regions.1 Regional lymphadenopathy and salivary gland involvement is common.1,2 Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia develops as smaller red papules or plaques, also of the head and neck1,5 usually without lymphadenopathy or salivary gland involvement.1,4 Systemically, many patients with KD have elevated IgE levels, with reports demonstrating up to a 98% incidence of eosinophilia in KD vs 24% in ALHE.1,4 Kimura disease has been reported to be associated with asthma, tuberculosis, nephrotic syndrome, and Loeffler syndrome.1,7 Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia may have a benign neoplastic origin or represent a secondary reaction to inflammation or other insult such as AIDS, trauma, infection, pregnancy, or hormonal imbalance.1,6,8

Authors have reviewed recent cases of KD and ALHE and better defined their histological characteristics.1,5 Kimura disease is identified by follicular lymphoid hyperplasia with germinal centers embedded in a fibrocollagenous stroma.1,2 Capillary proliferation is not characteristic of KD, but if present, the blood vessels are thin walled and lined by flat endothelial cells.5 Eosinophilic infiltrate is typical and eosinophilic abscesses are common.3 The defining feature of ALHE is an abnormal proliferation of vascular endothelial cells that are plump, atypical, cobblestone-like or histiocytoid.2,6,8 An inflammatory infiltrate is also characteristic of ALHE but usually contains fewer eosinophils than that of KD.2

According to the 2002 review by Yeung and Ma,7 43 cases of KD involving the orbit, lacrimal gland, eyelid, conjunctiva, or chorioretina, have been identified, predominantly in Asian patients. Patients with orbital KD may have exophthalmos, eyelid swelling, a palpable mass, ocular dysmotility, ptosis, tearing, pruritis, pain, or headache.1,4,5 The superior orbit has been found to be the most common location of disease.5,6 How-
ever, only 8 reported orbital cases had bilateral involvement, with none of these clearly documenting bilateral lacrimal gland involvement. Our patient’s initial manifestation involving bilateral lacrimal gland enlargement and inflammatory signs led us to initially pursue a workup for conditions such as syphilis, sarcoidosis, tuberculosis, and Wegener granulomatosis. Other possible considerations in the differential included Hodgkin or non-Hodgkin lymphoma, pyogenic granuloma, eosinophilic granuloma, parasitic infection, benign papillary endothelial hyperplasia, Kaposi sarcoma, angiosarcoma, retrolubar optic nerve meningioma or glioma, recurrent choroidal melanoma, and metastases, which were excluded by clinical and histological evaluation.1,7 The rarity of KD in this setting, especially in a non-Asian patient led us to consider a diagnosis of exclusion, orbital pseudotumor (ie, idiopathic orbital inflammation), which can manifest in a similar manner. Idiopathic orbital inflammation is histopathologically diverse and an eosinophilic infiltrate can also be seen.3 However, the subsequent occurrence of a lesion with similar histopathological features in our patient’s neck, a more typical location for KD, in combination with persistent peripheral eosinophilia and elevated IgE levels, helped establish the diagnosis of KD. Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia was ruled out because vascular proliferation of endothelial cells was not a predominant feature of the specimen.

In summary, we report a unique case of KD demonstrating bilateral lacrimal gland involvement in a non-Asian patient. Since this disease may involve the orbit and possibly have systemic involvement, it is important that physicians be aware of this unusual manifestation.

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