Vasculitis of Dental Pulp Associated with Cryoglobulinemia in Hepatitis C Virus Patients: Case Report

Introduction: This report presents a case of impacted lower third molar extracted for surgical reasons in a patient with uncontrolled hepatitis C. After decalcification, dental pulp vasculature and its tissue quality were investigated. Methods: Serial sections of 4-mm thickness along the midline buccolingually for the demineralized specimen were obtained, mounted on a glass slide, stained with hematoxylin-eosin, covered, and viewed under the light microscope. Results: The histologic investigation of the pulp tissue revealed thickening, stenosis, and occlusion of the vessel wall, ectopic calcification of the pulp tissue in close association with pulpal blood vessels, interrupted and vacuolated odontoblastic layer in the coronal pulp chamber, with an inflammatory cell infiltrate throughout the pulpal tissue. Conclusions: Cryoglobulinemia associated with uncontrolled hepatitis C virus infection in patients endangers the dental pulp vasculature and alters its normal tissue architecture.