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**INTRAORAL ATYPICAL CELLULAR BLUE NEVUS : A RARE CASE REPORT AND REVIEW OF PATHOGENESIS**

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**ABSTRACT**

Nevi are the congenital or developmental malformations seen on the skin and mucosa which usually develop from the nevus cells of surface epithelium. Cutaneous melanocytic nevi are more common than their intraoral counterpart. According to the location of the nevus cells, the nevi are histologically divided into four types: intradermal, junctional, compound and blue nevi. Intraoral Blue nevus is a very rare entity and clinically it manifests as well-circumscribed, slightly raised, asymptomatic, blue - black lesions in palate and gingiva. Mutation of GNAQ gene, encoding the G-protein alpha subunit of cell-surface receptor results in development of Blue nevus. Though blue nevus is a benign neoplasm, it has a high malignant transformation potential. This case of intraoral blue nevus in a 39-year-old male is not only rare of its kind but also had features of cellular atypia which makes it more prone towards transformation into a malignant one.

Key words: Intraoral blue nevus; Atypical; Pathogenesis