

# **PILO-SEBACEOUS STRUCTURES IN THE UTERINE CERVIX: Case Report**

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Sebaceous glands in the uterine cervix is a very rare finding. Literature search disclosed only few reports (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

On the other hand, pilar structures are exceptionally observed in the cervix (7, 8).

In view of the rarity, we would like to report a case of pilo-sebaceous structures within the uterine cervix, which constitute a very unusual anatomical curiosity.

## **CASE REPORT**

T.S., a 45 year old woman, was biopsied for cervical "polyp", as colposcopy revealed.

Histological examination disclosed two small fragments of endocervical mucosa, with mild aspecific chronic inflammation and focal areas of superficial and glandular squamous metaplasia, and a polypoid fragment of endocervical mucosa.

This last presented a stromal axis, rich in vascular structures within a dense connective tissue, covered by endocervical mucosa presenting diffuse squamous metaplasia at the edge of the polyp.

In this polyp a sebaceous gland with hair follicle was observed (Fig. 1 and 2) in the stroma under the squamous epithelium, which was also keratinized. Lymphocytic and plasmacellular inflammation was sparsely present.

No previous biopsy, nor macroscopic relevance of the pilo-sebaceous structures were referred by the Clinicians.

## **DISCUSSION**

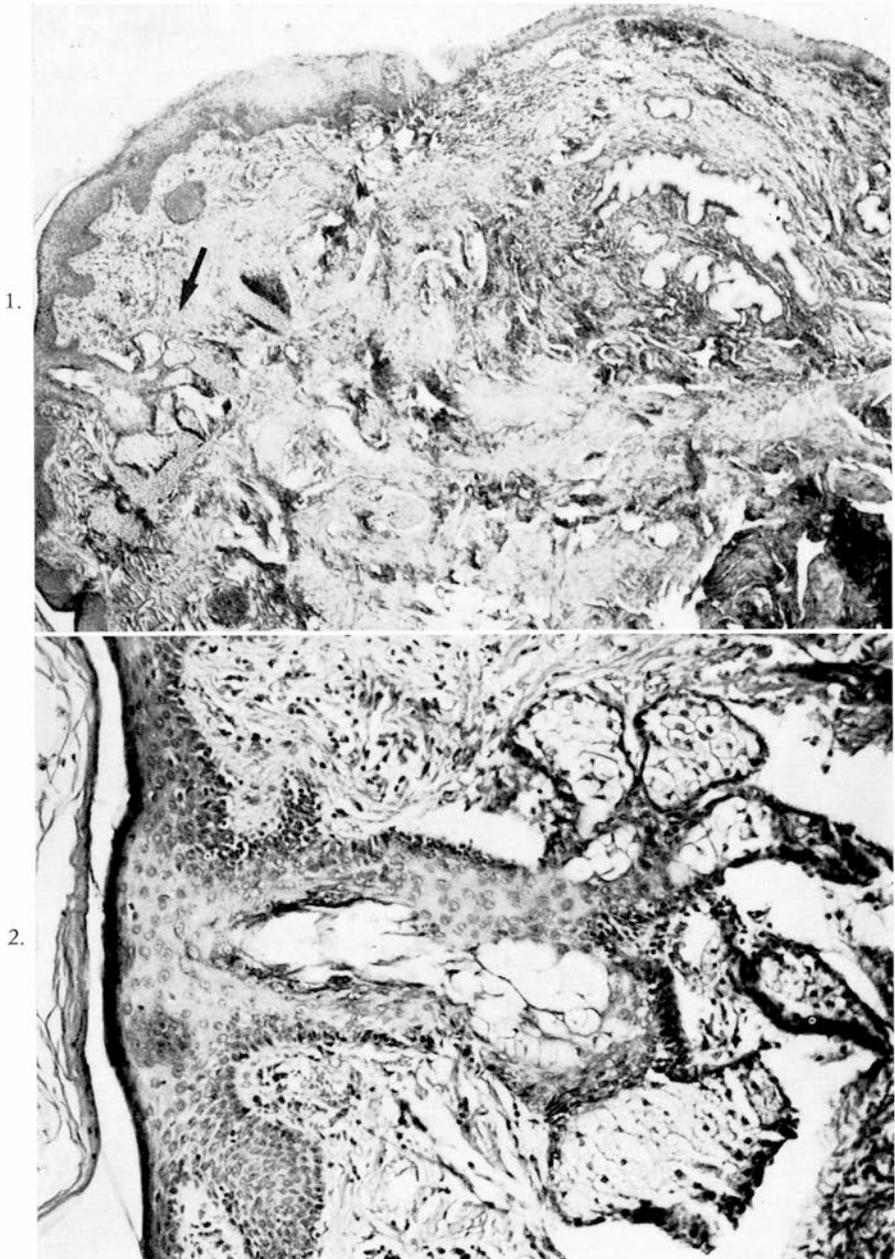
Age of incidence of these ectodermic structures in the cervix seems to be the adult-middle age (34-55 years), and while sebaceous glands have been observed in the eso- as well as in the endo-cervix, pilar structures are always reported in cervical polyps.

Histogenetic theories for this unexpected finding include an abnormal form of squamous metaplasia occurring in continued chronic inflammation (1, 6).

However, the mild inflammation and absence of epithelial dysplasia, as observed in our case and in the other reports, compared to the thousands of severe chronic cervicitis, which every pathologist meets

## **SUMMARY**

The Authors report a case of pilo-sebaceous structures within a cervical polyp in a 45 year old woman.



Fi. 1. — Panoramic view: on the left (arrow) pilo-sebaceous structure, on the right endocervical glands. The polyp is covered by squamous metaplastic epithelium.

Fig. 2. — Detail of the sebaceous gland with hair follicle which is located in the stroma under a squamous keratinizing epithelium.

duing his routine practice, strongly contrasts with the exceptionality of this finding.

Therefore, to our opinion, metaplastic origin seems doubtful while ectodermal misplacement and casual inclusion – even embriologically improbable – could be a more acceptable explanation.

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