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Radiological and pathological correlation in patients with bronchioloalveolar lung carcinoma

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**Abstract:** Aim: To assess the correlation between pathological and radiological findings in patients with pure bronchioloalveolar carcinoma (BAC). Materials and Methods: We retrospectively evaluated the pathological and radiological findings in patients with pure BAC. Results: We reviewed the case records, pathological specimens, and computer files of 26 patients with a pathologic diagnosis of pure BAC during a 3-year period. There was a statistically significant relationship between pathological and radiological findings ( $X^2 = 15.143$ ,  $P = 0.004$ ). There was a correlation between mucinous pathology and diffuse pattern, as well as between non-mucinous pathology and solitary nodule/mass/cavitation. A statistically significant relationship between lymphocytic infiltration of the tumor and radiological findings was not observed ( $X^2 = 10.057$ ,  $P = 0.122$ ). A statistically significant relationship between the presence of sclerosis and radiological findings was observed ( $X^2 = 6.229$ ,  $P = 0.044$ ). In the presence of sclerosis, solitary nodule/ mass/cavitation radiological findings were seen more frequently. Conclusions: A diffuse radiological pattern was correlated with BAC mucinous subtype, while solitary nodule/mass/cavitation was correlated with non-mucinous pathology and the presence of sclerosis; however, we could not define a 100% relationship between them. In order to understand the biological nature of the disease, additional molecular and genetic studies are required.

**Key Words:** Lung cancer, radiology of lung cancer, pathology of lung cancer, bronchioloalveolar carcinoma.

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