

Oral lichen planus (OLP) is a common chronic inflammatory and immune mediated disease. The diagnosis require clinical and histopathological examination to rule out other possible diseases. Viral infection has been hypothesized as a predisposing factor in the development of this disease. It is possible that oral mucosal viral infections including HPV infection may enroll as a causative agent in OLP pathogenesis. The study aimed to investigate the prevalence of human papilloma virus in oral lichen planus. The samples were obtained from the archives of the department of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology/ College of Dentistry/University of Baghdad during the period 1990-2015. The study was composed of (30) paraffinized samples of previously diagnosed oral lichen planus and (30) paraffinized samples of nonpathogenic mucosa were studied. In situ hybridization was used for detection of DNA HPV. The data were analyzed with SPSS software and chi square test was used to find the possible relation between HPV infection and oral lichen planus. Four out of 30 (13.3%) lichen planus samples and three out of 30 (10%) controls were HPV positive. No significant correlation ( $P>0.05$ ) was observed between HPV infection and oral lichen planus. The study revealed that might be not relationship between human papillomavirus and incidence of oral lichen planus.