



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

## EPIDERMAL CARCINOMA OF THE CONCHAL BOWL: CREATION OF A MULTIDISCIPLINARY PATHWAY APPROACH

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**Background:** Malignant neoplasms of the auricle make up 6% of all skin cancers. Upon presentation, it is estimated that 6-18% of squamous cell carcinoma in the external ear will have metastasized, highlighting the aggressive nature of these neoplasms. Management of cutaneous neoplasms of the conchal bowl present a unique challenge in visualizing and defining margins that may extend into the external auditory canal.

**Observation:** We present a series of patients that were referred to dermatology or otolaryngology, with cutaneous neoplasms arising in the conchal bowl. These patients highlighted the need for a consensus approach from otolaryngology and dermatology for evaluation and treatment. The objective of this study is to create a multidisciplinary pathway for cutaneous carcinoma of conchal bowl extending into the external auditory canal. This was based on review of the otolaryngology and dermatology literature, and collaboration between the two specialties. Initial evaluation should be done by both dermatology and otolaryngology, the latter of whom provide microscopic otoscope evaluation of the canal. Imaging is recommended for all lesions that approach the external auditory canal, for bony and soft tissue spread. Following imaging, excision of the tumour is undertaken with Mohs' micrographic surgery achieving clearance of the tumour in the conchal bowl. If extension into the external auditory meatus is present, otolaryngology would proceed with en bloc resection of the tumour extension, guided by the positive areas communicated by the Mohs' micrographic surgeon. Repair would be done based on the defect remaining, with both specialties involved in follow up.

**Key message:** In collaboration between dermatological and otolaryngology, and following review of the literature, a pathway was created to manage skin cancer of the conchal bowl. This resulted in a step-wise approach for evaluation and management, ensuring that patients have a clear streamlined pathway for the treatment of these lesions.

