



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

TREATMENT OF BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OF THE EAR WITH MOHS MICROGRAPHIC SURGERY IN RENAL TRANSPLANTED RECEIPT

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Background: Mohs Micrographic Surgery (MMS) is used to treat skin cancer, mapping 100% of the laterals and deep margins of the lesion. This technique reaches higher cure rates with better aesthetics results.

Observation: A 16 years previous renal transplant receipt presented an infiltrate lesion at left pre-auricular area 2 year ago. Histopathological study revealed superficial and nodular Basal Cell Carcinoma (BCC). He was a 43-year-old male, skin type III, under immunosuppressive therapy (Tacrolimus, Azathioprine and Prednisone). In the past 4 years, he had two BCCs that were surgically excised. Because of his immunosuppression and the histological subtype, we attempted to treat him with Imiquimode 5% cream, with good response. In his follow up, a local recurrence occurred after one year, with the emergence of an erythematous-descamative ulcerated plaque, measuring 4,3x2,3 cm, at the same topography. Thus, he was submitted to MMS with complete removal of the tumor, leaving a 5,2x3,0 cm surgical defect, approached with primary closure. BCC is 10-16 times more common in renal transplanted receipts than in general population. Immunosuppressive therapy, UV radiation, older age and time of transplantation justifies this association. In immunosuppressed patients non-elective for surgical exeresis, Imiquimod can be used for treatment of superficial and nodular BCC, however, about 20% of these patients reccur or don't respond.

Key message: MMS is the first-line therapy for BCC and is a great option in recurrences, aggressive subtypes, high risk anatomical areas or where tissue preservation is important. The cure rates with MMS is about 99% for primary BCC and 93-98% for BCC recurrence. In this case, the clinical presentation right above temporal nerve and artery path was a challenge, magnified by convexities and concavities of the ear. Primary closure was a good oncological alternative, maintaining auricular functionality and aesthetics.

