



DERMATOPATHOLOGY

OSTEO-NEVUS OF NANTA: CASE REPORT OF A RARE PHENOMENON

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I present the case of a 29-year-old female patient who presents a neoformation of approximately 1 cm in diameter, hyperpigmented, light brown, slightly indurated in right cheek. She has it from birth. She decided to remove the lesion for cosmetic reasons. The histopathology reveals an intradermal melanocytic nevus but as a finding, bone was observed adjacent to the lesion. Then, the diagnosis of Osteo-nevus of Nanta (or bone metaplasia in a benign intradermal melanocytic nevi) was made.

Some rare findings have been reported in intradermal melanocytic nevi, the formation of a bone is one of them and it is a rare phenomenon in these lesions. In general Nanta's osteo-nevus are not very reported, but in large series it has been reported that it represents 20% of the lesions that have bone formation. This nevus is more frequent in women. The etiology is unknown, but one hypothesis is that osteoblasts have surface receptors for estrogens and there is down-regulation of bone resorption, both can explain the bone formation. Another theory is that fibroblasts deposit collagen type I and osteonectin with the subsequent bone formation.

I report one case of bone metaplasia within a benign melanocytic lesion in a female patient. The bone formation can be observe in other lesions, such as: acne, pilomatrixoma, epidermoid cysts, even a reported case of melanoma. The cases that have been reported of this phenomenon are mostly Asian and is not reported in the rest of the literature. Dermatopathologists should be aware of this association, which although is benign, it is rare.

