



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

## SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMAS IN TWO CASES OF NAIL LICHEN PLANUS: IS THERE A REAL ASSOCIATION?

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**Background:** Lichen planus is a chronic inflammatory disease that affects the skin and oral mucosa. Although its etiology is unknown, its potential for cancerization has been confirmed by many studies, primarily for lichen involving the oral mucosa. The nature of this relationship is unclear; chronic inflammatory processes and oncogenic growth factors may be the underlying mechanisms for the development of neoplastic cells in the epidermis of patients with an immunocompromised cutaneous district

**Observation:** We here report the cases of a brother and sister, both with a 15-year history of nail lichen planus of the fingers and toes, histologically confirmed and treated with topical corticosteroids, who developed squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) of the nail bed and matrix.

**Key message:** The present article aims to highlight the importance of a correct diagnosis, treatment, and periodic follow-up of precancerous lesions such as lichen planus (LP) and to explain the underlying mechanisms of neoplastic changes involved in both LP and SCC, probably related to chronic inflammatory processes. According to the literature, this is the second case of SCCs arising on nail lichen planus.

