



MELANOMA AND MELANOCYTIC NAEVI

ASPIRIN INDUCED MELANOMA?

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Background: Interesting, yet still discussable is the link between the aspirin intake in the course of many years and the risk of malignant melanoma occurrence. According to recent studies the aspirin intake by women has a protective role and reduces the likelihood of melanoma development, which is probably related to its anti-inflammatory effect. The available data suggests the reverse dependency in men: a higher frequency of skin melanoma occurrence by continuous aspirin intake.

Observation: We present two patients with systematic aspirin intake and subsequent melanoma development. The first patient has been taking aspirin for five years but two years ago he noticed the occurred pigmented lesion in the abdominal area. In that case was performed a one-step melanoma surgery on the basis of clinic and dermatoscopy and the lesion was removed with a field of surgical safety of 1cm in all directions. The staging showed melanoma stage I (T1aN0M0). The second patient has been taking aspirin for several years and during the dermatological examination was discovered as a finding the hyperpigmented macule in regio abdominalis dextra, which is suspected for malignant melanoma. In that case was applied the standard approach with primary excision of the lesion with a field of safety of 0.5cm in all directions followed by re-excision of 1.5cm in all directions. The staging showed melanoma stage IIC (T4bN0M0).

Key message: It is considered that in women the acetylsalicylic acid has anti-tumour effect linked to the blocking of COX-2 enzyme. Contrary to that, in men the aspirin intake leads to a higher risk of melanoma development which is probably connected to the hormonal differences and the lower level of superoxide dismutase and catalase enzymes.

