



MELANOMA AND MELANOCYTIC NAEVI

KAPOSI'S SARCOMA OCCURRING DURING ANTI-PD1 IMMUNOTHERAPY

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BACKGROUND: Kaposi sarcoma (KS) is a rare angioproliferative malignancy associated with human herpesvirus 8 (HHV8). On the basis of high PD-1/PD-L1 expression in classic KS and the immunogenic activity of viral neoantigens, clinical trials on immunotherapy in advanced stage of KS are ongoing.

OBSERVATION : We describe a 74-year-old female affected by metastatic melanoma treated continuously with pembrolizumab for 20 months. During this period of time she also underwent whole brain radiotherapy for the occurrence of multiple brain metastases. Eighteen months after pembrolizumab initiation, the patient was examined for the development of two asymptomatic lesions on the right leg that had developed one week earlier. Physical examination showed the presence of two red-purple plaques, measuring 1,5 cm located on the medial surface of the right thigh and right leg, in close proximity to the site of the primary melanoma. Dermoscopic evaluation of both lesions showed bluish-reddish color and rainbow pattern. According to Naranjo algorithm the event is "doubtful" associated to the drug (score 0). Lesions were surgically excised and histopathologic examination showed thin wall HHV8 positive vessels throughout the entire dermis, compatible with the diagnosis of Kaposi's sarcoma. After follow up of 6 months, the patient has no recurrences.

KEY MESSAGE: To our knowledge KS occurring during immunotherapy with anti-PD1 has not been described so far. On the basis of recent clinical trials on immunotherapy to treat Kaposi sarcoma, our case might represent a coincidental observation that however should be considered during pembrolizumab treatment.

