



MELANOMA AND MELANOCYTIC NAEVI

## MELANOMA IN CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS: CLINICAL-PATHOLOGY, SURGERY AND OUTCOME

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**Aim of the Study:** To compare incidence, management and outcome of cutaneous melanoma in patients under 39 years of age in Tuscany (Italy) with data of Italian Association Registers Tumors (AIRTUM) and with current United States cancer statistics (Cronin et al, Cancer 2018).

**Methods:** We considered patients under 39 years of age diagnosed with melanoma as primary tumor between 2006 and 2016 at the Livorno Hospital. We have then divided the selected patients in three age groups: children (0-14 years), adolescent (15-21 years) and young adults (22-39 years). We analyzed for each patients: sex, anatomical site, T stage, diameter of lesion, ulceration, number of mitosis, regression areas, Clark's level, intralesional lymphoid infiltrate, perilesional lymphoid infiltrate and vascular invasion. When performed, result of sentinel lymph node biopsy was also assessed. Finally, incidence and survival rates were calculated.

**Main Results:** We collected 426 total cases of melanoma. Distribution by age at diagnosis was: 6 cases (1,4%) in children, 33 (7,7%) in adolescent and 387 (90,8%) in young adults. Average incidence was 23,9/100.000. The trunk in was the most common area involved (58,9%). Sentinel lymph node biopsy were 0 in children, 4 (12%) in adolescent (all negative) and 61 (15,8%) in young adult group (10 positive, 16,4%). The overall survival at 5 years was 98,6%. Deaths occurred only in the young adult group: 6 (1,4%) patients died, all of them within 3 years from diagnosis.

**Conclusions:** The data of our study, compared to those of Italian Association Registers Tumors show a much higher incidence in all three age groups, especially in that of young adults. Survival is in line with what is reported in the literature.

