



MELANOMA AND MELANOCYTIC NAEVI

MULTIPLE FACES OF VERRUCOUS MELANOMA: A CASE SERIES WITH DERMATOSCOPIC AND HISTOPATHOLOGIC FEATURES

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Background: Verrucous melanoma and melanoma with epitheliomatous hyperplasia are related lesions. They represent rare variants of melanoma that can mimic a seborrheic keratosis, common wart and compound nevus. Verrucous melanoma was first described by Clark in 1967. After two years, Clark points out that any melanoma, except nodular type, could develop verrucous features. As a result, verrucous melanoma was eliminated from this classification. Subsequently they have been reported under different names, such as atypical melanoacanthoma, verrucous naevoid malignant melanoma and verrucous melanoma in sensu strictu. Its frequency accounts for only 1,6% of all melanomas, of which 0,7% are primary ("de novo") and 0,9% are secondary, derived from any type of pre-existing melanoma. It is primarily seen as a verrucous and pigmented lesion on the trunk and extremities. Dermatoscopy shows seborrheic keratosis-like features, however key findings include atypical vessels and an irregular pigment distribution. Histological hallmarks are irregular epidermal hyperplasia, thick cornified layer and keratotic cysts. Breslow depth can be difficult to estimate.

Observation: We present a case series of five patients with different clinical pictures of verrucous melanoma and analyze their clinical, dermatoscopic and histopathological features.

Key message: The diagnosis of verrucous melanoma is difficult because of its clinical, histopathologic and dermatoscopic similarities with pigmented seborrheic keratosis. We report a case series of five verrucous melanomas with polymorphic findings. We highlight the dermatoscopic and histologic features that could allow its early and accurate recognition.

