



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

## AN EXTRA-OCULAR SEBACEOUS CARCINOMA WITH FEATURES OF SCC: A CHALLENGING DIAGNOSIS

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**Background:** Cutaneous extraocular sebaceous carcinomas (ESC) are rare and aggressive malignancies arising from sebaceous gland tissue. They are less common than their counterpart, periocular sebaceous carcinomas, and can develop at any site of the body particularly in the head and neck region. They can spread to regional and distant sites. Their aetiology is unknown, documented more commonly in the elderly and Asian population. ESC can display varying histological patterns and present similarly to more common skin neoplasms such as basal carcinomas or squamous cell carcinomas.

**Observation:** A 65-year old gentleman presented with a large, tender, keratotic plaque on his left temple with an unknown history. He had Parkinson's disease under treatment with levodopa but was otherwise fit and well. No personal or family history of cancer was present. Full skin check and lymphadenopathy were both unremarkable. Clinical history and examination did not suggest any features of Muir-Torre or Lynch Syndrome.

The 3.2x2.2 cm lesion was subsequently excised with graft repair under the plastics team. Histology results revealed a poorly differentiated malignant epithelial neoplasm of local origin showing both squamous and sebaceous components. Although the two components were distinct in morphology, they were intimately admixed with each other.

A team of dermatopathologists reported this lesion as most likely a poorly differentiated carcinoma of local origin showing divergent differentiation. This case was discussed at our CPC meeting where it was decided that the lesion should be managed as a sebaceous carcinoma. He was followed up in our skin cancer clinic 6 monthly and remains stable.

**Key Message:** The clinical features of mixed extraocular sebaceous carcinoma and SCC can be misleading. As this skin cancer can be aggressive, prompt excision is necessary to avoid delays in diagnosis. We present this unusual case to aid dermatologists to recognize this rare entity.

