SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

ANGIOSARCOMA SUBSEQUENT TO BREAST CANCER RADIOTHERAPY: AN EXTREMELY UNUSUAL CASE

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Background: Cutaneous angiosarcoma (CAS) is an extremely rare vascular neoplasm, representing <1% of cases of sarcoma. It is characterized by rapid growth, local invasion and high rate of metastasis. Radiation therapy is an important risk factor for its development. We present a case of a rapidly growth postradiation angiosarcoma.

Observation: 85-year-old female with an history of breast cancer treated with surgery plus local radiotherapy 15 years before, presented with a rapidly growth painful tumor in the chest that have been present for over 3 months. Physical examination showed a large tumor extending from the right middle thoracic area to the retroaxillary area, composed of multifocal violaceous tumors, associated with ulceration and tendency to bleed. Dermoscopy showed heterogeneous areas of different colors (pink, reddish, violaceous, purpuric, bluish) associated with atypical polymorphous vascular structures and irregular septa. Chest Computed-Tomography showed neoplasia that involves the subcutaneous cellular tissue, skin and right breast tissue and extensive metastatic involvement of the pulmonary parenchyma associated with bilateral pleural effusion. A biopsy is performed showing an endothelial proliferation with atypical cells, immunohistochemistry: EMA(-), CK7(-), Vimentin(+), CD34(+) and GCDFP15(-). The definitive diagnosis of CAS was made. The patient died prior to the initiation of treatment due to pulmonary decompensation.

Key message: CAS is an extremely rare vascular tumor with very poor prognosis, and very few cases in the literature have been reported. Due to longer survival of breast cancer patients, incidence of CAS is thought to be increasing, so is essential to recognize first signs of appear. It can have multiple differential diagnosis, so dermoscopy of new lesions and long-term cutaneous physical examination of patients previously submitted to radiotherapy takes a fundamental role. Even when there are cases described in the literature, we do not find reports of a case of such accelerated growth or such extensive manifestations.