



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA ASSOCIATED WITH NEVUS COMEDONICUS IN 22-YEAR-OLD WOMAN: CASE REPORT

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Background: Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) represents the most common cancer worldwide. The incidence of basal cell carcinoma increases with age and occurs infrequently in people under 50. Head and neck are sites of predilection for basal cell tumors. Nevus comedonicus is a rare hamartoma of the pilosebaceous unit. Its occurrence entails the unregulated growth of the mesoderm portion of the pilosebaceous unit. The invaginations of the epithelial line, unable to form mature terminal hairs and sebaceous glands, accumulate a horny and softened ostial product, resulting in a plug. It features bundles of papules and dilated follicular openings containing epidermal residues and firm pigmented horny plugs, similar to comedones.

Observation: A 22-year-old, female, student, healthy patient with no comorbidities complained of a hyperchromic plaque in the left malar region since childhood with a gradual increase of extension over the years. She reported aesthetic discomfort and eventual local itching that motivated her to seek assistance. The first evaluation shows a rounded plaque, approximately 3 cm in diameter, composed in its central region by small hyperchromic papules clustered, a lesion compatible clinically with nevus comedonicus. After excision, histopathology from the center of the lesion showed in the dermis cystically dilated hair follicles and follicular ostios filled with keratin. Surrounding the dilated follicles, the dermis exhibits moderate mononuclear infiltrate and fibrosis. In the periphery of the lesion, there were basaloid cells with micronodular arrangement, peripheral palisade, expansive and infiltrative growth pattern with moderate nuclear atypia. The diagnosis was of a nevus comedonicus in the center and a basal cell carcinoma in the peripheral area of the same lesion.

Key message: The association of nevus comedonicus with BCC in the same lesion is rare and poorly described in the literature, especially in young patients.

