



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

CUTANEOUS SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMAS (SCC) ASSOCIATED WITH COSMETIC SKIN WHITENING: WAITING FOR WHO'S REACTION

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Introduction: We reported previously 08 cases of SCC associated with the cosmetic skin whitening and we suspected Hydroquinone, propionate of clobetasol and the UV radiations as promoting factors. Our aim was to report three more cases.

Observations: From November 2016 to April 2018, three women consult for cauliflower-like (n=2) and, ulcerated (n=1) tumors that evolved on average for 5.3 months. The tumors were localized on the neck, susclavicular area and the right breast, on exogenous ochronosis (n=2) or poikiloderma (n=1). All women used topical steroids and hydroquinone for cosmetic purpose during 28 yeras in average. The anatomopathological exam shows an aspect of squamous cell carcinoma well differentiated. The Cervico-thoraco-abdomino pelvic CT showed right axillary lymphadenopathy in one case and right supraclavicular lymphadenopathy in another. There was no metastasis, the HIV serology was negative (n=2) or not available (n=1). The treatment was based on surgery in all cases, one patient receive chemotherapy. One of the patients was lost of follow up while the other died in her home. The third woman is always followed since five months.

Discussion: Since 2000, several cases of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma associated with cosmetic skin bleaching were reported in several countries of sub-saharan Africa. A part one case, all the tumors were localized on photoexposed area. These new observations





are arguments to make, by WHO, lightening cosmetics look like carcinogenic products in the same way as tanning booths.

