



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA: CASE REPORT AND REVIEW

Khalidi Meryem⁽¹⁾ - Machane Achraf⁽¹⁾ - Oumakhir Siham⁽¹⁾ - Hjira Naoufal⁽¹⁾

Departement Of Dermatology, Military Hospital Mohammed V, Rabat, Morocco⁽¹⁾

Background: Neuroendocrine carcinomas are rare cutaneous malignant tumors of the skin. It affects white skin older people and it most often located in the sun-exposed areas, especially the face.

Observation: It's a 54-year-old female patient, having a medium skin color, who's reporting the appearance six months before of painless and ulcer-budding nodule on the left buttock, measuring approximately 5cm / 5cm, having hard consistency and purplish color. Physical examination revealed left inguinal painless lymph nodes and metastatic spread six months later.

A biopsy excision was performed and it shows Merkel carcinoma expressing cytokeratin 20 and neuron-specific enolase. A thoracic-abdominal-pelvic showed a multiple lymph nodes above and below diaphragmatic. The patient had benefited from two chemotherapy sessions with etoposid and carboplastin. But the evolution was disappointing and she died four months later.

Key message: MCCs are rare tumors of the skin that occur mostly in the white population. It affects mainly males and is typically seen in the elderly, with mean ages at diagnosis of 74 years. It often occur on sun-exposed regions of the skin, especially the face. It's a painless, purple lump on the skin that can be multifocal. Small, round, blue-cell tumors are seen at histological exam and need to be distinguished from other neuroendocrine carcinomas, in particular small cell lung carcinoma. Immunohistochemical shows CK20 expression with other neuroendocrine markers. The treatment of the primary tumor remains surgical. Lymph node dissection and primary nodal radiotherapy are options for treating clinically node-negative disease. For clinically palpable tumors, lymph node dissection is recommended with consideration of adjuvant radiation therapy. Prognosis is bad and survival is limited.

