



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

## **METASTATIC EXTRAOCULAR SEBACEOUS CARCINOMA: A CASE REPORT**

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**Background:** Sebaceous carcinomas are rare, aggressive, malignant tumors that arise from sebaceous glands. They can be: ocular and less commonly extraocular. They exhibit a variety of histologic growth patterns and diverse clinical presentations. Metastases are rarely reported and have very little evidence about the role of chemotherapy in their treatment.

**Observation:** A 79 year old woman complained of a quickly enlarging nodule involving the mid part of her forehead 2 weeks before admission. On clinical examination a 6 cm<sup>2</sup> exophytic hemorrhagic painless mass was occupying the mid forehead with a right sided 1 cm retro auricular firm lymph node. Cranio-cervico-thoracic CT scan revealed cervical and mediastinal lymphadenopathy and no intracranial involvement. The mass biopsy for histological examination found a sebaceous carcinoma. The patient underwent a total excision of the lesion. The anatomopathologic examination of the resection specimen confirmed the previous findings and found tumor free margins. Radiotherapy was scheduled but the patient was lost to follow up after surgery. 6 months later, she came back with a right latero cervical mass related to lymphatic metastasis.

**Key message:** Extraocular sebaceous carcinomas account for only about 25% of all sebaceous carcinomas. The available literature on treatment recommends wide surgical excision with tumor-free margins with removal of regional lymph nodes, followed sometimes by adjuvant radiotherapy. These tumors were classically considered to be a less aggressive neoplasm than their ocular counterpart. A review of the literature shows that extraocular sebaceous carcinoma can also lead to distant metastases that generally occur after an average of five years following the initial diagnosis, unlike our case where the evolution was quickly aggressive. Thus, a regular long-term follow-up should be advised. More attention should also be paid to the patterns of metastasis sites and the choice of chemotherapy since only very few studies have looked at it.

