



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

MULTIPLE BASAL CELL CARCINOMAS: A RETROSPECTIVE SERIES OF 33 PATIENTS

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BACKGROUND: Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is a slow-growing and locally aggressive skin cancer. It usually presents as well-circumscribed pearly papules. Multiple basal cell carcinomas (MBCC) are often related to hereditary conditions.

OBJECTIVE: The aim of this study is to investigate multiple BCC risk factors, aspects, evolution and therapeutic modalities.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: This is a retrospective study conducted in the oral and maxillofacial department of Sahloul Hospital between 2010 and 2017. All the patients had a histological diagnosis of BCC and had surgical excision with clear margins. A standard reconstruction techniques were employed.

RESULTS: A total of 33 patients were diagnosed with BCC. There were 12 female (36%) and 21 (64%) male patients. The epidemiological data represented by the male predominance seem to be in agreement with the data of the literature. The mean age of patients were 57 years. Sun exposure is the most important environmental cause of BCC. Inherited conditions such as Gorlin syndrome, xeroderma pigmentosum, Rombo syndrome, Bazex syndrome and Muir-Torre syndrome are associated with MBCC manifestations. Ionizing radiation in the form of radiotherapy is associated with the development of MBCC. In our series we found that most of them reported a sun exposure history, 21% of the patients were suffering from xeroderma pigmentosum, 12% had Gorlin Syndrome and 12% had a history of radiotherapy. The main clinical subtypes of BCC are nodular, superficial, and morpheaform. In our study, Nodular subtype was the most frequent. The craniofacial region was the most affected. Surgical resection was the treatment for all the patients with complete histopathological margin for most cases.

CONCLUSION: Early diagnosis and treatment, family screening and genetic counseling are essential to prevent the recurrence and the complications of MBCC.

