



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

SEBORRHEIC KERATOSIS OF THE PENIS: ABOUT A RARE CASE

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Background: Seborrheic keratoses (SK) are very common benign epidermal tumors. Their pathogenesis has been detected and includes several aetiological factors. The participation of human papilloma virus (HPV) is being discussed. SK in the genital area, especially on the penis, is extremely rare and may be misdiagnosed. A careful histopathological examination is essential to establish the correct diagnosis.

Observation: We report a case of a 50 years old man, with no significant past medical history and a normal prior sex activity. He presented with a 4-year history of pigmented asymptomatic lesions of the penis. The clinical examination revealed two brown and well demarcated plaques at the base of the penis, measuring 1 × 2 cm and 1 × 1.5 cm, with papillomatous and verrucous surface. There was no evidence of lymph node enlargement and the rest of the clinical examination was normal. The patient was deeply frustrated because of the absence of sexual intercourse with his wife since the manifestation of the lesions. The complete hemogram, liver, renal functions and immune status were found to be normal. An examination of human immunodeficiency virus, syphilis, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C proved negative. Histopathological examination after shave excision of the lesions showed SK aspect. No recurrence was observed during a 15 - month follow-up.

Key message: The penis is rarely affected by SK. This rare condition should be considered in the differential diagnosis for the lesions of the penis and histopathology after shave excision will help in the diagnosis. HPV could play a role in the pathogenesis of SK, but the causal relationship is controversial. This condition might negatively influence the sexual life of the patient and lead to psychiatric disorders.

