



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

## **NODULAR LESION WITH ARBORIZING VESSELS: A CASE OF CUTANEOUS MALIGNANT FIBROUS HISTIOCYTOMA.**

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**Background:** Cutaneous malignant fibrous histiocytoma (CMFH) is an undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma affecting typically caucasian men, aged between 50 and 70 years. It commonly arises on the trunk or lower extremities, less frequently on the head and neck. The prognosis is generally poor despite the proposed therapies such as radiotherapy and chemotherapy. The clinical diagnosis includes a range of benign and malignant skin tumors; up to date only one case describing the dermoscopic patterns of CMFH has been published.

**Observation:** A 75 year-old man presented with a recently developing nodular, painless, firm on palpation and ulcerated lesion on the vertex of the scalp. Dermoscopic examination revealed the presence of a shiny white structureless area on a reddish background with radially arranged, large arborizing vessels (AV). Although AV are generally a clue for the diagnosis of nodular basal cell carcinoma (BCC), their arrangement in BCC is usually branching and not radial as seen in our patient. Moreover, the history of a rapidly growing nodule is also unusual for the diagnosis of nodular BCC. The lesion was excised and histopathological examination revealed the diagnosis of CMFH.

**Key message:** CMFH is a rare tumor and little is known about the dermoscopic patterns of this variant of sarcoma. In our patient dermoscopic features of large AV were seen, which are generally considered the hallmark of BCC. As our case shows, CMFH should be included in the differential diagnosis of nodules showing AV.

