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MELANOMA AND MELANOCYTIC NAEVI

PERIFOLLICULAR RADIAL LINES A DERMATOSCOPIC SIGN ASSOCIATED WITH EXTRAFACIAL LENTIGO MALIGNA

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Extrafacial lentigo maligna lesions are difficult to diagnose. They are slow-growing, macular lesions located in areas of chronic sun damage. By dermatoscopy they usually have a homogenous-reticular pattern and multifocal pigmentation. They may show asymmetric follicular pigmentation, rhomboidal structures, atypical reticular pattern, asymmetric pigmentation, polygonal structures, eccentric areas without structure, white lines and angulated lines.

In 5 cases of extrafacial lentigo maligna we have observed a new dermoscopic sign that we have called perifollicular radial lines that simulate medusa head structures.

The confocal microscopy has allowed us to recognize this sign since the radial perifollicular lines are the dermatoscopic correlation of the atypical junctional thickenings arranged radially around the follicle that we see by confocal microscopy. These thickenings are seen at the dermoepidermal junction and are formed by atypical melanocytic cells arranged in junctional nests of irregular reflectance arranged radially around the follicle. This confocal sign has been observed in malignant facial and extrafacial lentigo maligna and has received the name of medusa head structures.

We describe 5 cases of extrafacial lentigo maligna with radial perifollicular lines. In three of the cases, the lesions showed more dermatoscopic signs associated with extrafacial lentigo maligna, in 2 of them the presence of radial perifollicular lines were fundamental to recognize this entity.

Radial lines around the follicle or medusa head structures are a new dermatoscopic sign associated with extrafacial lentigo maligna





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