



MELANOMA AND MELANOCYTIC NAEVI

RARE CASE OF VULVAR MELANOMA IN MADAGASCAR

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Introduction: Melanoma of the genital mucosa is a rare tumor. It represents 1.3% of melanomas. It is an aggressive tumor, worse prognosis than cutaneous melanoma. We report the case of vulvar melanoma in the metastatic state.

Observation: This is a 52years old woman who had vulvar tumefaction associated with a paraplegia a month ago. She had presented the same type of lesion two years ago and had surgery for excision. The examination showed a tumefaction blackish nodular budding, sitting at the level of the labia minora. Anatomico-pathological examination of the operative specimen confirmed ulcerated nodular melanoma, Breslow index 15 mm with incomplete excision. The extension assessment revealed vertebral osteolysis and hepatic and pulmonary metastases.

Discussion: Vulvar melanoma is of interest to both girls and adults. It occurs frequently in the nodular and budding form. The discovery is usually in the metastatic state. In our case, the patient had previously had an excisional but incomplete surgery. At the metastatic stage, treatment is difficult even if several therapeutic modalities are proposed. The search for genetic mutations are recommended but still unavailable in our country. Depending on the status of the c-KIT, NRAS and BRAF gene, targeted therapies may be proposed. These treatments are expensive and the therapeutic response often remains unsatisfactory.

Conclusion: Metastatic vulvar melanoma has a very poor prognosis. The cost of treatment, the unavailability of targeted therapies still make the therapeutic difficulty of this disease in Madagascar.

Keywords : Melanoma-genital mucosa – vulvar-targeted therapy - Madagascar

