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Cylindroma: a rare tumor in a typical site

Cilindroma: um raro tumor em localização típica

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ABSTRACT

Cylindroma is a rare benign neoplasm of probable origin in the eccrine sweat glands and is characterized by papular and nodular, painless, slow-growing lesions, generally located on the head, neck and scalp. When multiple, they can be part of hereditary syndromes. The authors report the case of a patient with a solitary nodulation on the scalp, presenting pathological examination compatible with cylindroma. The lesion was excised, with satisfactory results and no recurrence.

Keywords: Sweat Gland Neoplasms; Skin Neoplasms; Deubiquitinating Enzyme CYLD.

RESUMO

O cilindroma é uma neoplasia benigna rara, com provável origem nas glândulas sudoríparas écrinas, e caracteriza-se por lesões papulosas e nodulares, indolores, de crescimento lento, em geral localizadas em cabeça, pescoço e couro cabeludo. Quando múltiplas, podem fazer parte de síndromes hereditárias. Os autores relatam o caso de uma paciente com nodulação solitária no couro cabeludo, apresentando exame anatomopatológico compatível com cilindroma. Foi realizada exérese da lesão, com resultado satisfatório e ausência de recidiva.

Palavras-chave: Neoplasias das Glândulas Sudoríparas; Neoplasias Cutâneas; Enzima Desubiquitinante CYLD.

Case Report

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CASE REPORT

A 48-year-old female patient came to the Dermatology Department complaining of the appearance of an erythematous papule on her scalp about a year ago, which had progressed and became a painless nodule. No other associated skin lesions were reported. Her personal history included schistosomiasis and regular follow-up. There was no family history of the same condition or use of continuous medication. Dermatological examination revealed a papulonodular, erythematous lesion with a fibroelastic consistency and a smooth, shiny surface in the parietal region of the scalp (Figures 1 and 2). Dermoscopy showed arboriform vessels on the periphery of the lesion, and bright white striae and ulceration (Figure 3).



FIGURE 1: Papulonodular, erythematous, exulcerated lesion on the parietal region of the scalp



FIGURE 2: Papulonodular, erythematous lesion with a smooth, shiny surface, located on the scalp

The anatomopathological examination showed basaloid neoplasia, forming cell blocks of different sizes, arranged in the superficial and deep dermis, permeated by collagen matrix and stromal fusocellular proliferation. The cell blocks were well delimited, resembling pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. In addition, the cells were round with monotonous nuclei, no atypia, and a palisade arrangement was identified on the periphery. Sometimes ductal differentiation was seen in the center of the cell blocks (Figures 4 and 5).

The diagnosis of cylindroma was then confirmed, and a decision to completely excise the lesion was made, with closure using a double rhomboidal flap, with an excellent final aesthetic result.

DISCUSSION

Cylindroma is a rare benign neoplasm of the cutaneous adnexa, probably originating in the eccrine sweat glands, although the literature still differs as to its histogenesis.^{1,2} Clinically, it presents as papulonodular, firm, fibroelastic, well-circumscribed, painless, slow-progressing, pinkish to reddish or even bluish lesions, measuring from a few millimeters to a few centimeters in size, and may have arboriform telangiectasias on their surface. In general, cylindroma develops as solitary lesions on the head, neck, and scalp.³⁻⁶ The confluent growth of multiple cylindromas covering the entire scalp is historically known as a turban tumor.^{3,4} These tumors are frequently seen in middle-aged and older women, and no racial disparity has been reported.^{1,6} Although they can rarely be found solitary and sporadically, cylindromas, especially when multiple or with an early onset, are observed in autosomal dominant hereditary syndromes with

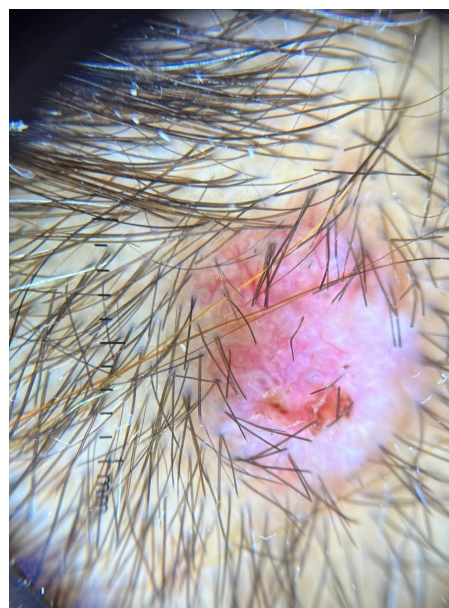


FIGURE 3: Arboriform vessels on the periphery, bright white striae and ulceration

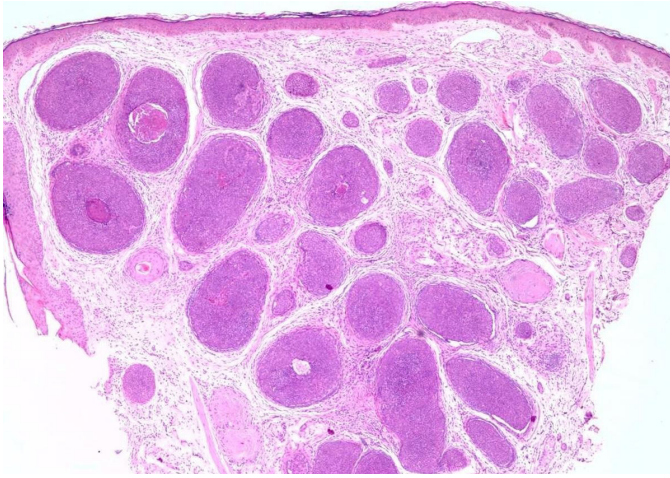


FIGURE 4: Hematoxylin & eosin, 40x magnification: blocks of basaloid cells arranged in the superficial and deep dermis

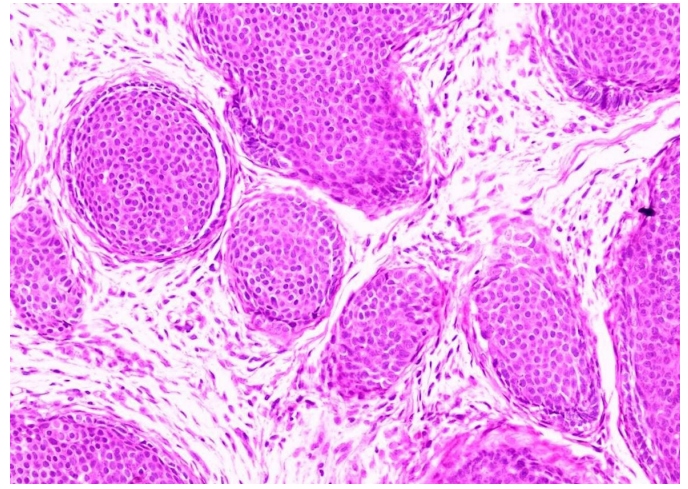


FIGURE 5: Hematoxylin & eosin, 200x magnification: round basaloid cell nests with monotonous nuclei in a typical jigsaw pattern, separated by a thick eosinophilic basement membrane

mutations in the *CYLD* gene.^{1,2,4,6} Familial cylindromatosis is characterized by multiple cylindromas usually located on the scalp. Cylindromas associated with multiple trichoepitheliomas are found in familial multiple trichoepithelioma syndrome. Brooke-Spiegler syndrome is considered an overlap of these two conditions, characterized by the presence of numerous adnexal tumors, mainly located on the scalp and face, including cylindromas, spiradenomas, and trichoepitheliomas.^{3,4,5,7} Genetic counselling may be indicated in patients with multiple cylindromas, spiradenomas, or trichoepitheliomas or in the presence of a single cylindroma in a first-degree relative with a history of cylindroma.^{4,5} Dermoscopy shows the presence of arboriform telangiectasias, more prominent in the periphery of the tumor, and a homogeneous pinkish-white background and linear white striae.⁸ Histologically, cylindromas consist of dermal nodules, not encapsulated, formed by nests of basaloid cells in a typical puzzle pattern, separated by a thick eosinophilic basement membrane. The peripheral cells are generally small, hyperchromatic, and

palisade-shaped. The central cells are larger, pale and have vesicular nuclei.^{3,4,6,9} The histological appearance of clusters of basaloid cell nests similar to cylinders when cut transversely has led to the descriptive term cylindroma.^{4,5} Cellular pleomorphism and mitoses are generally absent.³ Although rare, malignant transformation can occur in around 5–10% of patients, being more frequent in those with a mutation in the *CYLD* gene, given the presence, in general, of multiple lesions.^{1,3,4,9,10} Suspicious clinical features for malignancy include rapid growth, bleeding, ulceration and changes in color.^{2,3,4,9} In suspicious cases, radiological imaging, preferably MRI, should be considered, given the possibility of local invasion.^{5,6} Standard treatment consists of surgical excision and is recommended in cases of suspected malignant transformation, functional impairment, or for aesthetic reasons.¹ For solitary lesions, curettage and cryotherapy are therapeutic options, while for small lesions, CO₂ laser can be a tool.^{2,6} Finally, recurrence rates are relatively high, so extensive and complete removal of the tumor is recommended.^{2,5} ●

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