



UNUSUAL DERMOSCOPIC ASPECT OF TRICHOBLASTOMA ON THE FACE: A CASE REPORT

Dermatology

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ABSTRACT

Background: Trichoblastoma is a benign cutaneous neoplasm that is clinically, dermoscopically and histologically similar to basal cell carcinoma.

Presentation: We report a case of 32 year-old man with multilobed nodule on the nasolabial fold. Dermoscopic features were unusual with multiple densely packed papillae, each containing a central red loop.

Conclusion: we present a new dermoscopy criteria of trichoblastoma not posing a differential diagnosis problem with basal cell carcinoma.

KEYWORDS

Trichoblastoma; Dermoscopy; Face

INTRODUCTION

Trichoblastoma is benign neoplasm of follicular germinative cells. It appears on any surface with hair follicles, mainly the scalp and face. We report a case of trichoblastoma with an unusual dermoscopic features.

CASE PRESENTATION

A 32-year-old male visited our hospital with a six months history of a developing, asymptomatic nodule of his left nasolabial fold. Physical examination revealed a 1,5 cm sized and multilobed nodule on the left nasolabial fold Fig.1. The examination with dermoscopy revealed multiple densely packed papillae, each containing a central red loop Fig.2.

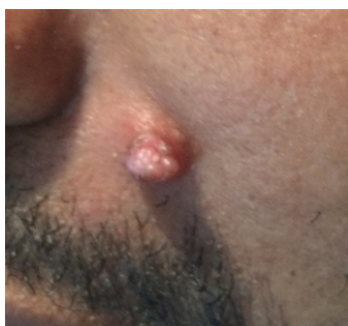


Fig 1: nodule of nasolabial fold

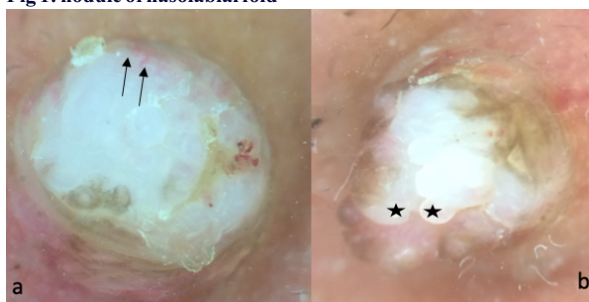


Fig2: dermoscopic aspect: a: central red loop ; b: papillary pattern (stars)

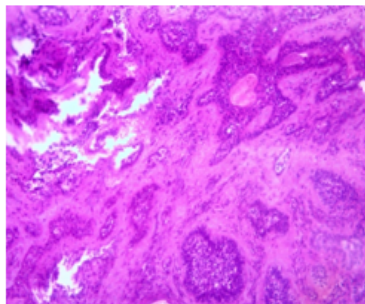


Fig 3: basal cell nests in dense stroma in the dermis

Histopathology of the lesion showed nests of basal cells in the dermis. The tumor stroma was dense and contained a high number of fibroblasts Fig.3. Thus, the diagnosis of trichoblastoma was made.

DISCUSSION

Trichoblastoma is a benign cutaneous tumor that differentiates toward hair follicle germinative cells 1. It has long been confused with nodular basal cell carcinoma.

Dermoscopic features of trichoblastoma, described in small series of the literature 1, 2, 3,, are as follows:

- Fine arborizing vessels, few in number, very thin and are “not in focus” under dermoscopy;
- Pigmented structures, as in BCC, such as pigmented dots, blue-gray globules, leaf-like structures and spoke-wheel areas;
- White structures such as chrysalids that reflect the presence of altered collagen within a dense stroma;
- Pearly background;
- Milia cysts, comedo-like opening;

In our case, no sign described above was found at the dermoscopic examination. Thus, the main dermoscopic structures observed were multiple densely packed papillae, each containing a central red loop. These dermoscopic features are commonly described in common warts.

CONCLUSION

Histopathology remains a gold standard method for the differential diagnosis between trichoblastoma and other benign or malignant tumors 4. In our case, we described dermoscopic features of trichoblastoma other than those described in the literature.

Competing interest

None

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