

Multiple Basal Cell Carcinomas Arising in Nevus Sebaceous

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Case Presentation

A 58-year-old woman was referred to our clinic for a 5-month history of a growing pigmented papule in the context of a nevus sebaceous (NS) on the right temporal area measuring about 8.0 cm x 2.0 cm (Figure 1A). On dermoscopic examination, the pigmented papule showed blue-gray globules/ovoid nest and focused arborizing vessels (Figure 1B) consistent with basal cell carcinoma (BCC). Besides this lesion, we also detected several smaller BCCs on dermoscopy (Figure 1C and D). The patient underwent surgical excision and histological examination of a bigger lesion, with confirmation of diagnosis, and cryotherapy of the smaller ones.

Teaching Point

NS is a benign skin lesion that has the potential to develop into secondary tumors [1]. While most of these secondary tumors are benign, NS can also be associated with malignant tumors such as BCC, squamous cell carcinoma, or sebaceous carcinoma [1]. A recent meta-analysis revealed that 12.8% of NS cases develop into secondary tumors, with 10.3% being benign and 2.4% malignant, predominantly BCC (1.7%) [1]. Typically, BCC arising from NS is solitary, but in rare cases, it can be multiple, as seen in our case, which complicates management [1,2]. Close follow-up, including dermoscopic examination, is necessary for these patients to promptly recognize initial lesions and avoid extensive surgeries.

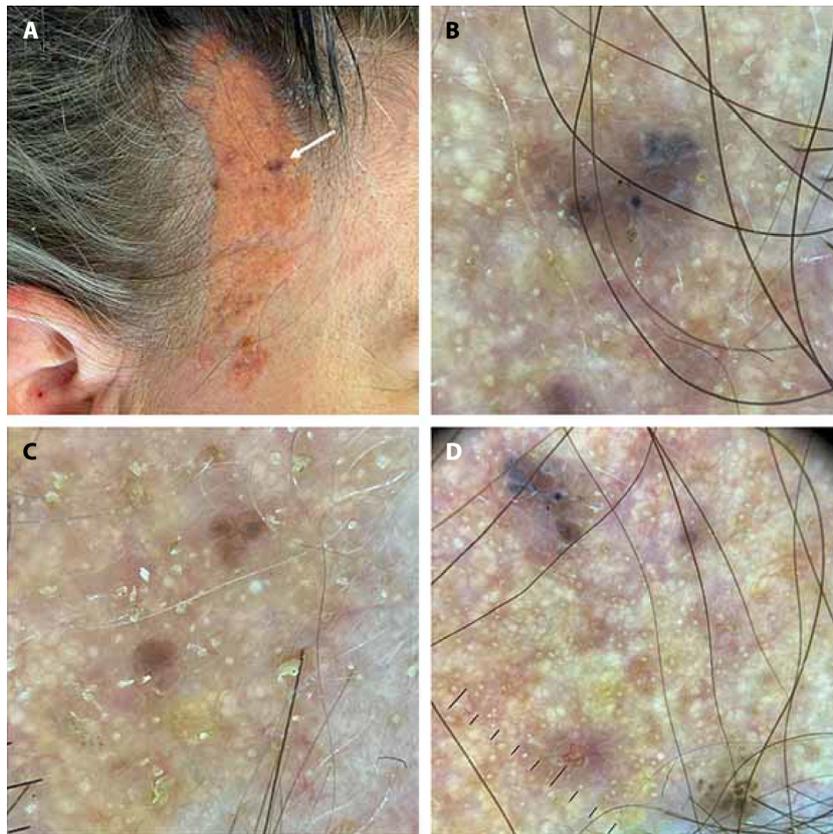


Figure 1. (A) Clinical examination shows a pigmented papule (arrow) in the context of a nevus sebaceous (NS) on the right temporal area. (B) Dermoscopy reveals blue-gray globules/ovoid nest and focused arborizing vessels. (C, D) Dermoscopic examination also revealed several smaller basal cell carcinomas.

References

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