

IMAGES IN DERMOSCOPY

Erythematous plaque on sebaceous nevus of the scalp

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CLINICAL CASE

A 29-year-old female patient presented with a clinical condition characterized by a papillomatous plaque on the scalp, present since birth, initially skin-colored, which progressively increased in size, reaching a length of 3 cm with a brownish hue. At the upper end of the lesion, an erythematous tumor was observed, which bled upon manipulation (Fig. 1).

A dermatoscopic evaluation of the described lesion was performed (Figs. 2 and 3).

WHAT IS YOUR DIAGNOSIS

Diagnosis

The dermatoscopic diagnosis was consistent with syringocystadenoma papilliferum over a sebaceous nevus, which was confirmed by histopathology (Figs. 4A and 4B).

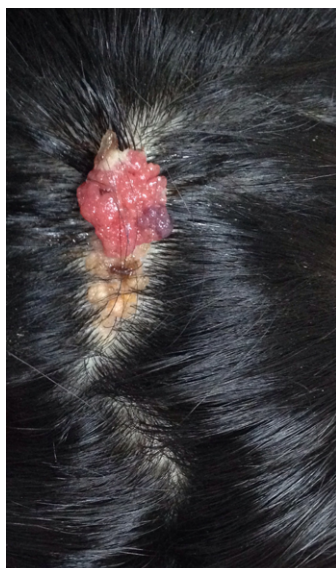


Fig. 1 Erythematous exophytic plaque overlying a brownish papillomatous tumor.

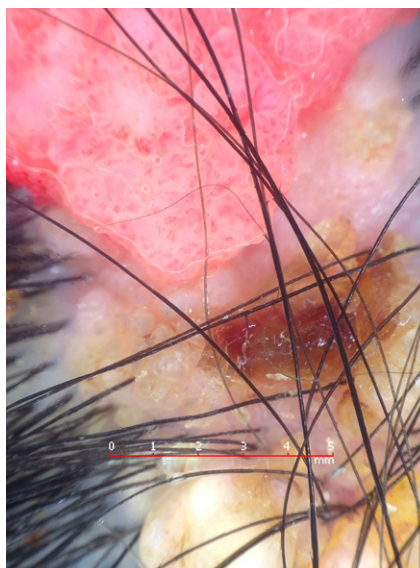


Fig. 2 Cerebriform-pattern plaque on dermoscopy showing round structures of varying sizes and brownish coloration (sebaceous nevus).

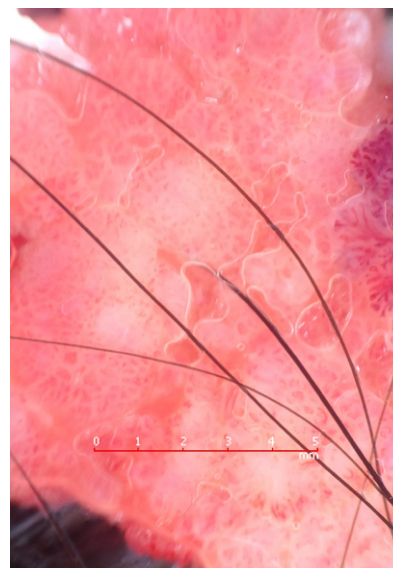


Fig. 3 Dermoscopy of the upper part of the exophytic lesion revealed an erythematous background intersected by irregular linear, horseshoe-shaped, and globular vessels.

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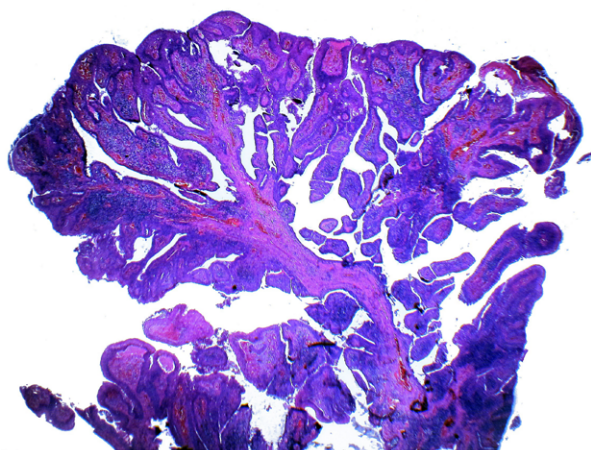


Fig. 4A Benign tumor composed of a proliferation of complex papillary fronds lined by a double layer of eosinophilic cuboidal epithelial cells, resting on well-vascularized fibroconnective stalks with a lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate, consistent with syringocystadenoma papilliferum.

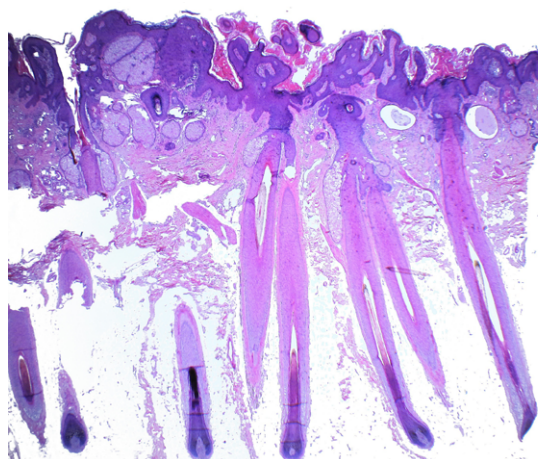


Fig. 4B The adjacent epidermis shows acanthosis, papillomatosis, and hyperkeratosis. Presence of abundant rudimentary or well-developed pilosebaceous structures, consistent with sebaceous nevus.

Syringocystadenoma papilliferum (SP) is a benign hamartoma that usually appears at birth, although cases have also been reported before puberty¹. Clinically, three main forms are observed: a) plaque type: characterized by an alopecic plaque on the scalp; b) linear type: consisting of pink-reddish papules or nodules, generally located on the face or neck; c) nodular type: composed of nodules measuring 5 to 10 mm in diameter, predominantly found on the trunk, shoulders, and axillae^{1,2}. SP develops *de novo* or from a preexisting sebaceous nevus in 30% of cases, similar to trichoblastoma^{2,3}.

Among the structures observed in dermoscopy of SP are exophytic papillary structures, occasional erosions or ulcerations, and less frequently, a central depression⁴. Additionally, vascular structures such as irregular linear vessels surrounded by a whitish halo or grouped in a horseshoe shape over a whitish-pink background are present⁵. The differential diagnosis includes various viral diseases such as molluscum contagiosum, common warts, as well as other tumors of skin appendages. The usual treatment consists of surgical excision or laser therapy².

Although the definitive diagnosis is primarily based on histopathological examination, dermoscopy plays a crucial role in clinical identification, allowing for a detailed evaluation of the lesions.

The significance of our case lies in the coexistence of both tumors, as the global literature reports a low frequency of occurrence.

INFORMED CONSENT

The patient included in this study has signed the informed consent, approving the use of her images and clinical data exclusively for research and scientific publication purposes. It is guaranteed that no personal data has been disclosed and that no photographs allowing patient identification have been used.

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¹Fajardo MK, King-Ismael D, Policarpo B. Syringocystadenoma papilliferum arising from a nevus sebaceus mimicking squamous cell carcinoma in a Filipino female: a case report. *J Philipp Dermatol Soc.* 2021 Mar;30(1):37-40.

²Carrillo M, Longo A, Poleo L, Ball E, Sardi J, Morante NV. Tumor aneal infre-cuente: reporte de dos casos. *Dermatol Venez.* 2019;57(1).

³Kim JY, Kim YC. Trichoblastoma and syringocystadenoma papilliferum arising in naevus sebaceus in a 4-year-old boy. *Clin Exp Dermatol.* 2007 Mar 1;32(2):218-9.

⁴Zaballos P, Serrano P, Flores G, Bañuls J, Thomas L, Llambrich A, et al. Dermoscopy of tumours arising in naevus sebaceus: a morphological study of 58 cases. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol.* 2015;29(11):2231-7.

⁵Barbosa C, Teixeira L, do Espírito Santo F, Nóbrega F, Soares G. Dermoscopic aspects of syringocystadenoma papilliferum associated with nevus sebaceus. *An Bras Dermatol.* 2011 Nov-Dec;86(6):1213-6.