

FP0775 PROLONGED EVOLUTION OF A LENTIGO MELANOMA

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We present herein an 82 year-old woman who had a persistent Dubreuilh's melanoma (DM) on her left cheek despite multiple excisions and which persisted for three decades.

The patient initially came to the Dermatology unit of Nancy in 1973 at age 50, with a gradually enlarging tan to brown macula with irregular borders. The biopsy confirmed a DM and the lesion was excised by plastic surgery. In 1975, she presented an erythema with pigmentation on the initial excision and we decided to do a clinical follow up. In 1978, the biopsy of the skin pigmentation confirmed a DM and the lesion was removed again. A skin graft was performed on the site at the same time. There were subsequent recurrences in 1983 at age 60, and in 1986 where she developed a small brown freckle which slowly enlarged on her left cheek and scaly areas lateral to the skin graft. The pigmented macula was excised and diagnosed as a DM. In 1987, the patient presented a new pigmentation on her left cheek but only a clinical follow up was proposed until 1993. Plastic surgery was done again in 1993 at age 70, and in 1995. Then it was decided to treat the lesion with cryosurgery. Twenty-five applications were done from 1995 to 2004. In 2004, the lesion persisted and was treated by topical imiquimod. There has never been any evidence of metastasis. We did not observe an evolution into an invasive melanoma three decades later, but we continue to follow this patient on a quarterly basis to monitor for possible further recurrences or an evolution into invasive melanoma.

Our case suggests that lentigo maligna melanoma has a different prognosis if it occurs in a young or an elderly patient. We think that the prognosis is depending on the age of the patient. In the case of Dubreuilh's melanoma occurring in young people, the evolution seems to be slow, and the lesion stays in situ. On the hand, if Dubreuilh's melanoma occurs in elderly patient, the disease evolves into an invasive melanoma, and is no longer a distinct nosological entity but the beginning of the development of a malignant melanoma.

References: 1-Bevona C, Fewkes J, Liu V, Sober AJ. "Prolonged evolution of a lentigo maligna". *J Am Acad Dermatol*, 2004 51:830-5