Dermatology Practical & Conceptual

Poroma Vessels can be Better Identified by High Magnification Dermoscopy Compared to Conventional Dermoscopy

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Case Presentation

An 88-year-old female with history of multiple basal cell carcinomas (BCCs) presented with an asymptomatic, pink-to-red 2-mm firm papule on her left posterior leg of two months' duration. Dermoscopy at magnification 20x (Medicam 1000, Fotofinder System, Bad Birnbach, Germany) showed yellow central structureless area, surrounded by white interlacing areas around polymorphous vessels (Figure 1A). The latter at magnification 300x (Fig.1b) and 400x (Fig.1c) better appeared as branched vessels with rounded endings. Histopathologic examination revealed features compatible with eccrine poroma.

Teaching Point

Eccrine poroma (EP) is an uncommon, benign sweat gland tumor that clinically may show a variety of features, mimicking other neoplasms [1]. The most frequent clinical presentation is a single slow-growing, asymptomatic pink-to-red well-circumscribed papule or nodule, commonly affecting the distal extremities of adult patients [1].

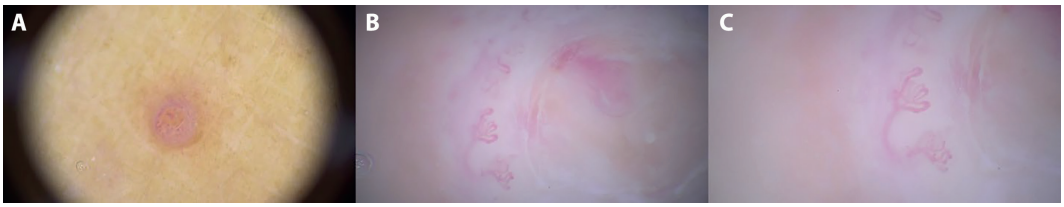

Figure 1. Dermoscopy of eccrine poroma. A) Yellow central structureless area, surrounded by white interlacing areas around polymorphous vessels visible at magnification 20x. B-C) Branched vessels with rounded endings well visible at magnification 300x (B) and 400x (C).

Dermoscopy improves the diagnosis of EP, typically showing a polymorphous vascular pattern, including branched vessels with rounded endings (branched vessels with looped/coiled terminal endings having a rounded silhouette), considered a clue for EP [1]. However, this finding was recently described in BCC, frequently reported as differential diagnosis of EP [2]. Of note, in EP the vessels are generally less prominent and branched than in BCC. This peculiar vascular morphology may be difficult to detect with conventional dermoscopy. High magnification dermoscopy is a new noninvasive imaging tool that has been shown to add information for clinically difficult-to-diagnose skin tumors. It may be useful to better identify branched vessels with rounded endings in EP, improving the diagnostic accuracy compared to dermoscopy with low magnification.

Ethics Statement: The patient in this manuscript gave written informed consent to the publication of her case details.

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