



MELANOMA AND MELANOCYTIC NAEVI

THE ACRAL MELANOMA: A SERIES OF 57 CASES

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Introduction: Melanoma in its acral location represents 3 to 15% of all cutaneous melanomas. In Morocco, this location is the most common. Through our study, we plan to analyze the epidemiological, clinical, dermoscopic, pathological and prognostic profile of the cases of acral melanoma in the dermatology department of Hassan II University Hospital of Fez.

Patients and methods: Retrospective study conducted in the dermatology department of Hassan II University Hospital in Fez between January 2007 and June 2018, including all patients with histologically confirmed acraloma. Epidemiological, clinical and evolutionary information was used from patients' medical records.

Results: Of 80 cases, 57 cases had an acral form, of which 37 were women and 20 were men. The average age at diagnosis was 63 years old. The average time to evolution was 32 months. 26 patients reported an antecedent of foot trauma. 66% of the melanomas were ulcerative-budding nodules. Various dermoscopic aspects were objectified in our series: a multicomponent pattern was found almost in the majority of cases, black, brown or gray irregular spots, blue-white veil and heterogeneous pigmentation, parallel pattern ridges. Other aspects are found: milky red areas and polymorphic vascularization. The main locations were the heel (40%). In 50%, the breslow index was more than 4 mm. The clark was level IV and V in the majority of cases. Histological ulceration was noted in 38 cases. 38% of patients had lymph node, lung, or cerebral metastases, the prognosis was unfavorable for most patients.

Conclusion: Acral melanoma is the most common form in our context. It is often diagnosed at an advanced stage, this can be explained by its hidden plantar location. Awareness-raising among the population and health personnel would probably reduce its morbidity

