



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

PRIMARY CUTANEOUS B CELL LYMPHOMA: A CASE SERIES ACROSS THE SPECTRUM OF CUTANEOUS LYMPHOMAS.

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Introduction: Primary cutaneous B cell lymphomas (CBCL) are rare tumors that account for approximately 25% of all primary cutaneous lymphomas (PCL). Some environmental factors have been incriminated especially *Borrelia*'s infection. In Tunisia, CBCL are much rarer and do not seem to be related to a specific etiological factor.

Objective: The present study aimed at describing the incidence and characteristics of CBCL among all PCL.

Materials and Methods: A monocentric retrospective cohort study was conducted including all cases of PCL.

Results: During the period of the study, seventy patients were diagnosed with PCL. Among them, six cases were consistent with the diagnosis of CBCL which represented 8,5% of all PCL. the average age at the diagnosis was 59 years. The average duration between the onset of skin lesions and diagnosis was five years. Skin lesions affected the face in three cases, the trunk in two cases and the scalp in one case. Lesions were multiple, violaceous nodules in four cases and a solitary nodule in two cases. The diagnosis was confirmed by histological examination in all cases. Four patients had primary cutaneous follicle center lymphoma, two patients had primary cutaneous marginal zone lymphoma. Staging procedures showed no abnormalities in all cases. Three patients underwent surgical excision. chemotherapy was applied in two cases, and radiotherapy in one case. No etiological factor was found during the period of the study.

Conclusion: This study showed that the incidence of CBCL is low in our country compared to that of international studies, a fact that is probably due to the association between CBCL and infection with specific *Borrelia* species in endemic areas.

