

Pigmented plaque on the thigh: Atypical location of a basal cell carcinoma

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Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most common type of skin cancer, usually occurring on sun-exposed areas, such as the head and neck [1]. Chronic sun exposure is the cause of most of its cases but it may also develop on unexposed areas. BCC on extrafacial sites accounts for 17% of all basal cell carcinomas [2]. In these cases, dermoscopy can be especially helpful in diagnosis.

A 43-year-old female presented herself with a slowly growing, slightly itchy pigmented lesion on the right thigh persistent for the past two years. A clinical examination revealed a 2-cm well-limited pigmented plaque with excoriations on the periphery (Fig. 1). Dermoscopy showed multiple maple-leaf-like areas, digitiform structures

with rosettes (Fig. 2). The lesion was subsequently excised with 6-mm margins. A histopathological report confirmed the diagnosis of superficial basal cell carcinoma with clear margins.

Consent

The examination of the patient was conducted according to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms, in which the patients gave their consent for images and other clinical information to be included in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due effort will be made to conceal their identity, but that anonymity cannot be guaranteed.



Figure 1: Clinical image showing a 2-cm well-limited pigmented plaque with excoriations on the periphery.



Figure 2: Dermoscopic image showing multiple maple-leaf-like areas, digitiform structures with rosettes.

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