

NAEVUS COMEDONICUS AFFECTING THE PALMS

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Rare occurrence of comedo naevus on the palmar skin is described

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Introduction

Comedo nevus is a circumscribed or systematised developmental dysplasia in which hair follicles filled with horny plugs constitute a prominent clinical and histological feature. Occurrence of comedo nevus in the glabrous skin of palm is extremely rare and explains a different pathogenetic mechanism without follicular involvement. Here we report a case of comedo naevus occurring on the palmar skin.

Case Report

A 12-year-old, healthy male presented with an asymptomatic, circumscribed, warty lesion on the thenar eminence of (R) palm since childhood. He sought advice only for cosmetic reason. He had applied several agents topically without any relief.

Examination revealed a circumscribed area of 4x4cm on the thenar eminence of (R) palm, consisting of multiple pits of varying sizes filled with comedones. His general and systemic examination revealed no abnormality. Hemogram and urinalysis were within nor-

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mal limits. Histopathology of the skin lesion was consistent with nevus comedonicus.

Discussion

Comedo nevus was first reported by Kofman in 1895.¹ Though nearly 130 cases have been reported, only 2 had palmar involvement as extension of the lesion on the extremities.² Comedo nevus comes under the realm of epithelial nevi.



Fig.1. Comedo nevus on the right palm

It is generally considered as a hamartoma-homologous (a structure resembling the mature organ formed from the matrix responsible for the development of that organ) or heterologous (the structure does not resemble mature organ sufficiently to justify the iden-

tification of an embryonic matrix responsible for its development). The palmar comedo nevus may hence be regarded as a heterologous hamartoma.³

As palmar skin is not programmed to form follicular structure, the occurrence of lesions in this area could be either due to metaplastic keratinization of nonfunctional eccrine gland or as a heterologous hamartoma,³ from the presence of defective

follicular structure which are unable to differentiate and to form hair, in the palmar skin.

References

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