

An atypical ear nodule



Figure 1: Clinical view of the nodule of left ear lobe

A six-year-old girl presented with a 10 months' history of a nodule on the left ear lobe. Examination revealed that there was a single very firm nodule of about 0.5 cm diameter behind the ear lobe. It was characterized by peripheral erythema and arborizing telangiectatic vessels [Figure 1]. Dermatoscopic evaluation revealed the presence of arborizing, branching and non-branching vessels radiating toward the center of a gold shiny background area; the vessels did not cross the center of the nodule [Figure 2]. The lesion was asymptomatic. The mother reported a previous occurrence of what seemed to be an infection following ear piercing with the spring-loaded gun technique. She also reported never having found the back of the earring again. After administration of a local anesthetic, the nodule was opened surgically. The back of a gold butterfly earring, completely embedded in the left ear lobe, was removed [Figure 3].

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent.

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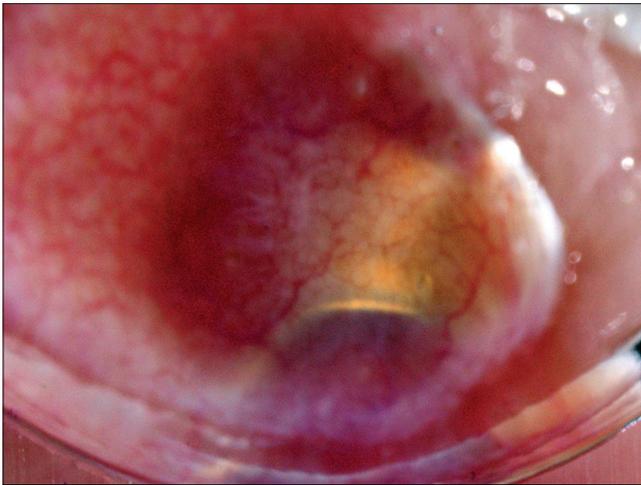


Figure 2: Dermatoscopic view of the nodule of left ear lobe



Figure 3: The removed back of a gold butterfly earring, that was completely embedded in the left ear lobe

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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