

Dermoscopic Rainbow Pattern in Cutaneous Angiosarcoma

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DESCRIPTION

Primary cutaneous angiosarcoma (CA) is a rare, highly malignant vascular tumor. The wide range of clinical presentations of CA makes this disease a challenge for diagnosis. Dermoscopic patterns of CA has been described in only a few small cases and might be helpful in clinical diagnosis.

A 50-year-old man with a medical history of diabetes mellitus and hypertension presented to dermatology clinic with asymptomatic purple lesion near the medial canthus of the left eye since 4 months. There was no history of neoplasm, radiotherapy or immunodeficiency. Cutaneous examination revealed well defined solitary, violaceous, raised, nodule measuring 5-10 mm in diameter over the inner canthus of the left eye (Figure 1). Kaposi's sarcoma or pigmented basal cell

carcinoma were clinically suspected. Dermoscopic examination exhibited a round, symmetrical lesion presenting homogeneous structureless areas with a central blue zone surrounded by violet then reddish peripheral area producing a rainbow pattern (RP) with an abundant white "steam like" circles (Figure 2).



Figure 1: Well-defined, solitary, reddish-violaceous papule measuring less than 1 cm over the inner canthus of the left eye.

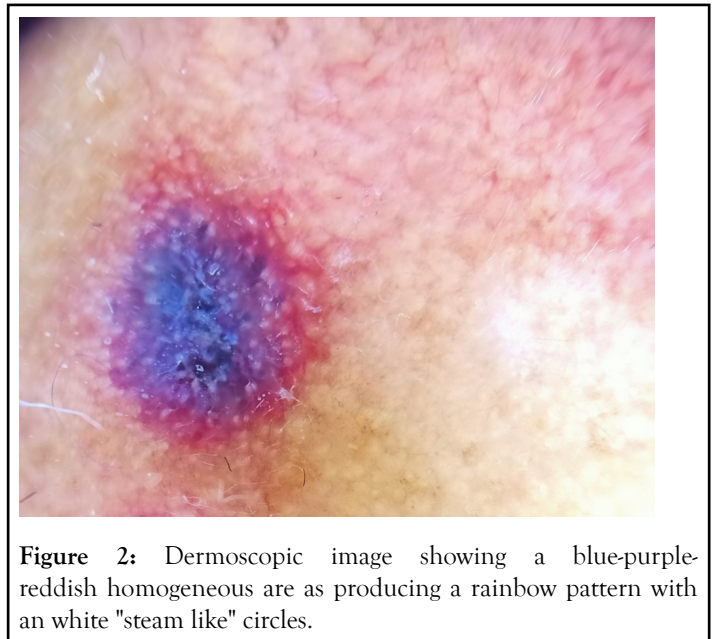


Figure 2: Dermoscopic image showing a blue-purple-reddish homogeneous area producing a rainbow pattern with white "steam like" circles.

A cutaneous biopsy was performed that revealed an extensive spindle endothelial cell proliferation involving dermis and hypodermis (Figure 3). We noted a Multiple vascular sinuses lined by tufts of neoplastic endothelial cells, an extravasated erythrocytes and a vascular emboli (Figures 3 and 4). Immunohistochemistry staining showed cell positivity for both CD31 and ERG. A diagnosis of CA was thus made. The findings of a chest X-ray and abdominal ultrasound were normal. The patient was treated with surgery followed by post-operative radiation. Dermoscopic features of CA had been rarely reported [1,2]. The RP was previously thought to be the specific dermoscopic pattern of Kaposi sarcoma, but later melanoma,

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Received: April 08, 2021; **Accepted:** April 22, 2021; **Published:** April 29, 2021

Citation: Mohamed BR, Sana M, Mouna BH, Amina A, Sriha B, Noueiri C, et al. (2021) Dermoscopic Rainbow Pattern in Cutaneous Angiosarcoma. J Clin Exp Dermatol Res.12:559.

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aneurysmal dermatofibroma and stasis dermatitis have been also described as presenting with a RP [3]. To date, no cases of CA showing the dermoscopic PR have been reported.

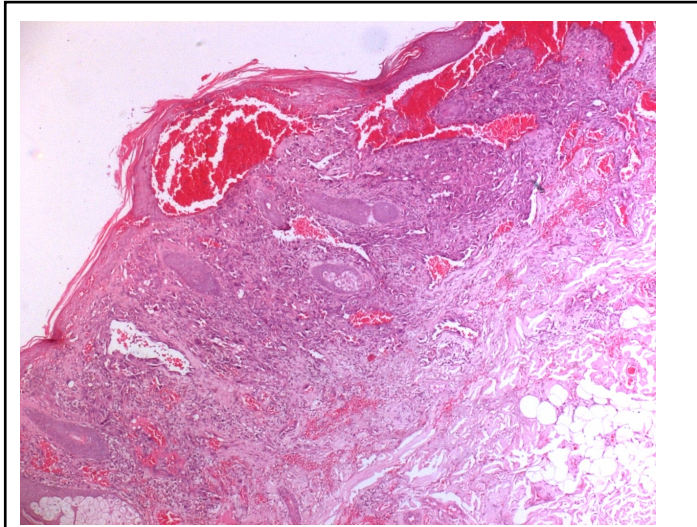


Figure 3: Low power view showing an extensive malignant endothelial cell proliferation involving dermis and hypodermis (HE*40).

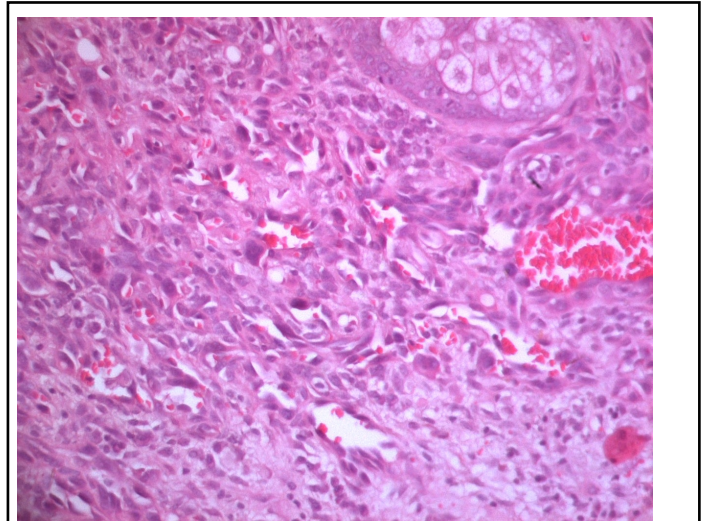


Figure 4: High power illustrating a neoplastic endothelial cells involving the dermis surrounding a typical vascular sinus with extravasated erythrocytes and vascular emboli (HE*400).

To conclude, The RP although not pathognomonic for a specific diagnosis, was highly suggestive of vascular tumors including CA.

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