

SOLITARY LUNG MELANOMA NODULE:

A CASE REPORT

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Abstract

Melanoma is a malignant tumor that most often affects the skin, but it can also occur in many other human organs. In recent decades, the frequency of melanoma cases continues to grow and it has now become a relatively common malignant neoplasm, which is a serious socio-economic problem. The vast majority of melanomas have a known primary site of their development, but approximately 3.2 % of all melanomas are first detected in distant locations without a known primary tumor.

Melanoma is considered as a multi-factorial disease, which arises as a result of the interaction of the genetic sensitivity of the human body and the influence of the environment. The most important and potentially modifying environmental risk factor of malignant melanoma is exposure to UV rays due to their genotoxic effect.

The most important human body risk factors are the number of melanocytic nevi, family history and genetic predisposition. Melanomas without a primary skin lesion have been poorly studied due to their rarity, although in recent years more information has become available regarding the clinical, molecular, and genetic characteristics of such tumors.

The article presents the actual observation of the so-called primary melanoma of the lung with a detailed description of known clinical data, performed surgical intervention and pathomorphological examination. The obtained data were compared with the available information on similar cases, demonstrating high grade of agreement. However, the authors hesitate to draw a conclusion regarding the treatment of primary lung melanoma, because recently, in a high-tech study of a number of similar cases of lung melanoma, objective molecular-genetic evidence has been provided for the existence of primary hidden melanoma of the skin.

Key words: solitary nodule of lung melanoma, diagnostics, treatment.

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