

# Lesioni melanocitarie borderline: criteri di diagnostica differenziale

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## Lesioni melanocitarie borderline: definizione

The **borderline melanocytic tumor (BTM)** is a morphologically and biologically indeterminate melanocytic proliferation manifesting worrisome architectural features and cytologic atypia exceeding that encountered in melanocytic nevi yet insufficient to warrant designation as melanoma. The criteria that define the BTM are not well defined nor is the concept widely recognized.

Un **tumore melanocitico "borderline"** (TMB) è una proliferazione melanocitica morfologicamente e biologicamente indeterminata che presenta caratteri architetturali preoccupanti e atipie citologiche superiori a quelle che si riscontrano nei nevi ma ancora insufficienti per giustificare una diagnosi di melanoma. I criteri che definiscono la TMB non sono ben definiti e il concetto di TMB non è ampiamente riconosciuto.

Magro CM, Crowson AN, Mihm MC Jr, Gupta K, Walker MJ, Solomon G. The dermal-based borderline melanocytic tumor: a categorical approach. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2010 Mar;62(3):469-79.

# Neoplasia melanocitica

Benigna

Atipica

Displastica

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**“Borderline”**

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Maligna

in situ/non tumorigenica (HGP)

invasiva/non tumorigenica (HGP)

invasiva/tumorigenica (VGP)

metastatica

Reed RJ, Ichinose H, Clark WH Jr, Mihm MC Jr. Common and uncommon melanocytic nevi and borderline melanomas. *Semin Oncol.* 1975 Jun;2(2):119-47.

State of the art, nomenclature, and points of consensus and controversy concerning benign melanocytic lesions: outcome of an international workshop. Barnhill RL, Cerroni L, Cook M, Elder DE, Kerl H, LeBoit PE, McCarthy SW, Mihm MC, Mooi WJ, Piepkorn MW, Prieto VG, Scolyer RA. **Adv Anat Pathol.** 2010 Mar;17(2):73-90.

## **Areas of controversy:**

- including nevi with halo reactions, traumatized nevi, "dysplastic" nevi, and nevi from particular anatomic sites;
- malignant transformation associated with congenital nevi;
- atypical spitzoid neoplasms;
- particular melanocytic cellular phenotypes
- blue nevi, combined nevi, and other controversial lesions such as deep penetrating nevus and pigmented epithelioid melanocytoma.

The Group recommended the description of ambiguous or "borderline" lesions as **tumors with indeterminate or uncertain biologic/malignant potential.**

# Abbreviations:

|         |                                                                                                                                    |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ASN     | <b>A</b> typical <b>S</b> pitz <b>N</b> evus                                                                                       |
| AST     | <b>A</b> typical <b>S</b> pitz <b>T</b> umor                                                                                       |
| B-DPN   | <b>B</b> ordrelin melanocytic proliferation arising in association with a <b>D</b> eep <b>P</b> enetrating <b>N</b> evus           |
| BMT     | <b>B</b> orderline <b>M</b> elanocytic <b>T</b> umor                                                                               |
| BNMT    | <b>B</b> orderline <b>N</b> evoid <b>M</b> elanocytic <b>T</b> umor                                                                |
| FAMMM   | <b>F</b> amilial <b>A</b> typical <b>M</b> ultiple <b>M</b> ole <b>M</b> elanoma                                                   |
| MANIAC  | <b>M</b> elanocytic <b>A</b> cral <b>N</b> evus with Intraepidermal <b>A</b> scent of <b>C</b> ells                                |
| MeiTUMP | <b>M</b> elanocytic <b>T</b> umors of <b>U</b> ncertain <b>M</b> alignant <b>P</b> otential                                        |
| PEM     | <b>P</b> igmented <b>E</b> pithelioid <b>M</b> elanocytoma                                                                         |
| PASNT   | <b>P</b> ediatric <b>A</b> typical <b>S</b> pitz <b>N</b> evus/ <b>T</b> umors                                                     |
| SNAFs   | <b>S</b> pitz <b>N</b> evi with <b>A</b> typical <b>F</b> eatures                                                                  |
| SPARK's | <b>N</b> evi with cytologic characteristic of <b>S</b> pitz and <b>A</b> rchitectural features of <b>C</b> lark's/dysplastic nevus |

## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

### Superficial variant of borderline melanocytic tumors:

- superficial atypical Spitz tumor;
- de novo intraepidermal epithelioid melanocytic dysplasia.

### Dermal variant of borderline melanocytic tumors:

- atypical proliferative nodules in congenital nevus;
- atypical Spitz tumor;
- atypical cellular blue nevus;
- borderline melanocytic tumor arising in a deep penetrating nevus;
- pigmented epithelioid melanocytoma;
- paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor;
- squamomelanocytic tumor.

## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

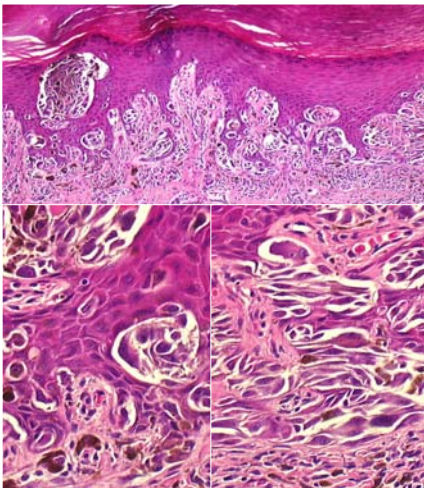
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## Superficial atypical Spitz tumor



- Younger female patients and common occurrence on the thigh.
- These lesions overlap with higher-grade dysplastic nevi and de novo intraepidermal epithelioid melanocytic dysplasia.
- Transition into malignant melanoma of superficial spreading type arising in a background of the superficial atypical Spitz tumor.

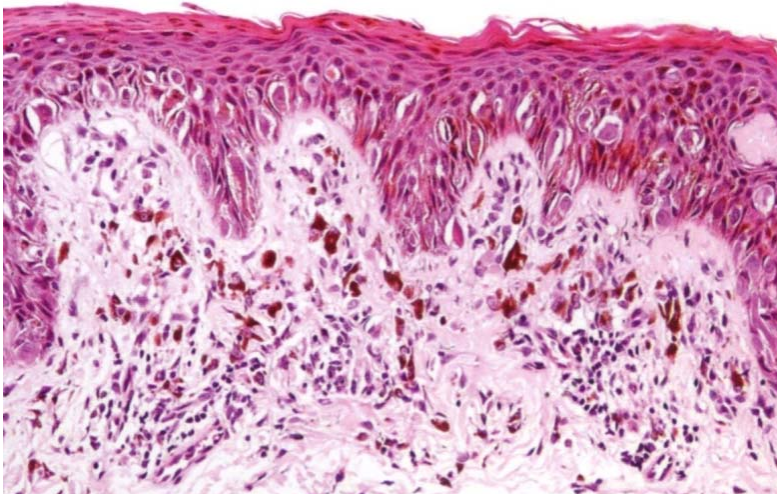
Magro CM, Yaniv S, Mihm MC. The superficial atypical Spitz tumor and malignant melanoma of superficial spreading type arising in association with the superficial atypical Spitz tumor: A distinct form of dysplastic Spitzoid nevomelanocytic proliferation. J Am Acad Dermatol 2009;60(5):814-23.

## **Tumore di Spitz atipico superficiale**

diagnosi differenziali

- Nevo di Spitz pagetoide
- Nevo di Spitz tipo placca
- Nevo di Spitz acrale superficiale
- Nevo di Spitz lichenoides superficiale
- Nevo displastico, varietà pagetoide

### **Nevo di Spitz pagetoide**



Busam KJ, Barnhill RL. Pagetoid Spitz nevus. Intraepidermal Spitz tumor with prominent pagetoid spread. Am J Surg Pathol. 1995 Sep;19(9):1061-7

## · Pagetoid Spitz

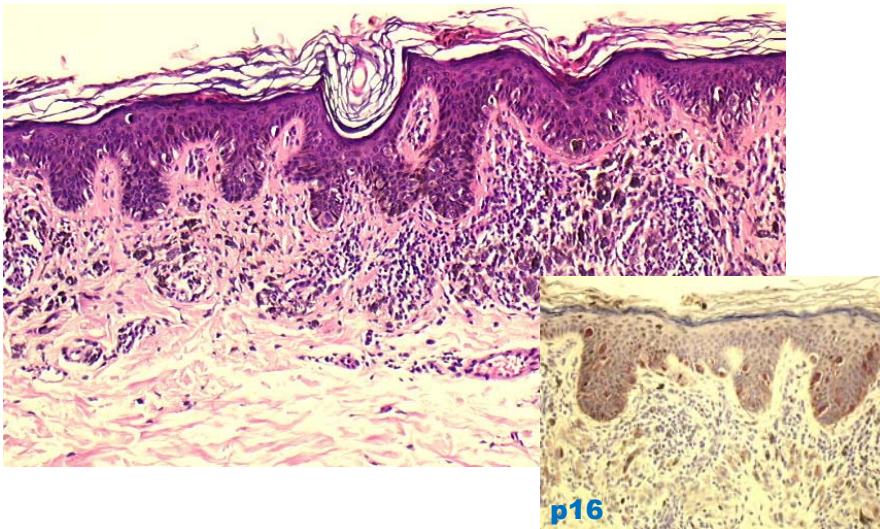
## SSM

usually < 6mm  
symmetrical  
ovoid perpendicular nests  
pagetoid spread prominent  
spindle & epithelioid cells  
cells uniform side to side  
scant melanin  
Kamino bodies  
maturation in dermis

usually > 6 mm  
asymmetric  
variably oriented nests  
often prominent  
usually epithelioid cells  
greater variability  
fine dusty melanin  
no Kamino bodies  
little or no maturation

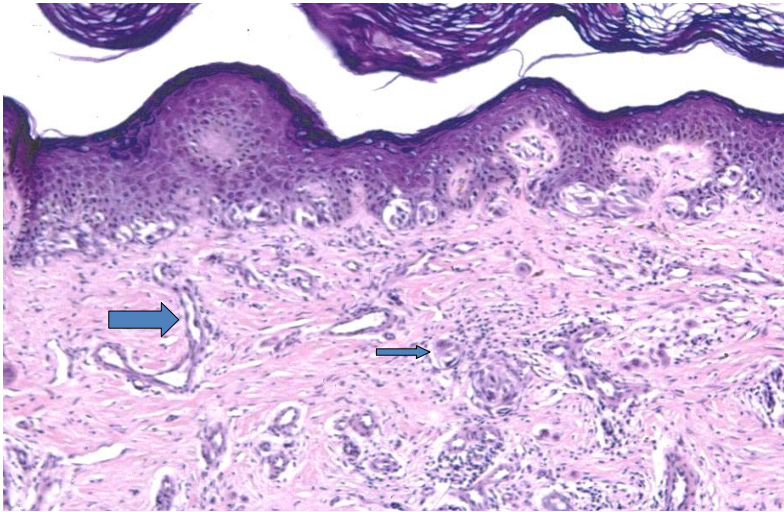
Xu X and Elder DE Practical approaches to problematic melanocytic lesions. Personal course.

## Nevo displastico pagetoide



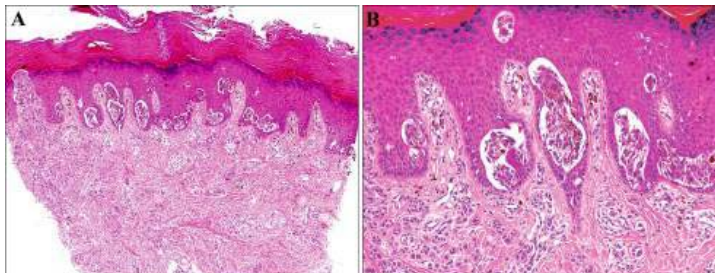
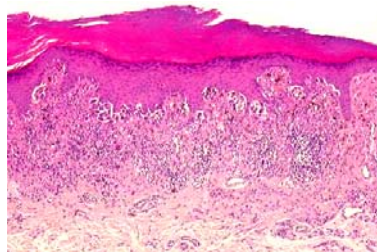
Coras B, Landthaler M, Stolz W, Vogt T. Dysplastic melanocytic nevi of the lower leg: sex- and site-specific histopathology. Am J Dermatopathol. 2010 Aug;32(6):599-602.

## Plaque-like Spitz nevus



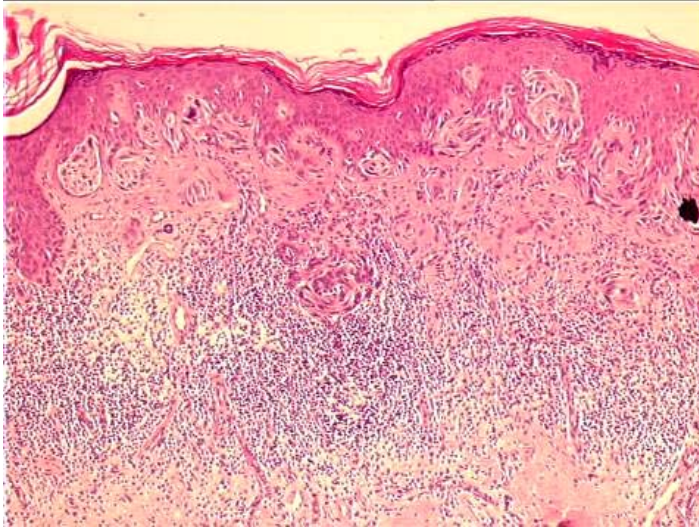
Crowson AN, Magro CM, Mihm MC. The melanocytic proliferations. A comprehensive textbook of pigmented lesions. Pag. 162-3 Wiley-Liss, 2001

## Nevo di Spitz acrale



Jang YH, Lee JY, Kim MR, Kim SC, Kim YC. Acral pigmented spitz nevus that clinically mimicked acral lentiginous malignant melanoma. Ann Dermatol. 2011 May;23(2):246-9. Epub 2011 May 27.

## Nevo di Spitz lichenoido o alonato



Crowson AN, Magro CM, Mihm MC. The melanocytic proliferations. A comprehensive textbook of pigmented lesions. Pag. 133-5 Wiley-Liss, 2001

## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

### Superficial variant of borderline melanocytic tumors:

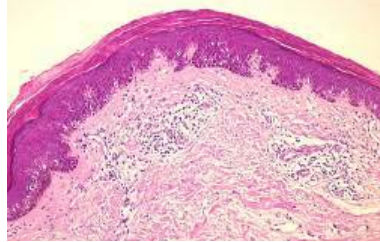
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- squamomelanocytic tumor.

## Displasia melanocitica intraepiteliale epitelioide

- Proliferazione intraepidermica di melanociti con atipie
- 2/3 dei pazienti hanno una familiarità per nevi displastici e/o melanoma
- Macule piatte, brunastre con bordi tondeggianti o irregolari, clinicamente simili ad un nevo displastico
- Sono localizzate prevalentemente su cute esposta ma anche su tronco, braccia e gambe.



Crowson AN, Magro CM and Mihm MC Jr. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology, 2004

## Superficial variant of borderline melanocytic tumors: differential diagnoses

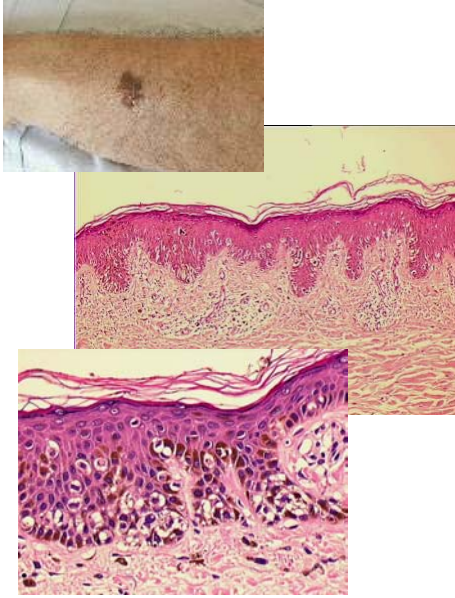
In situ pagetoid melanoma

Dysplastic type in situ melanoma

Acral lentiginous in situ melanoma

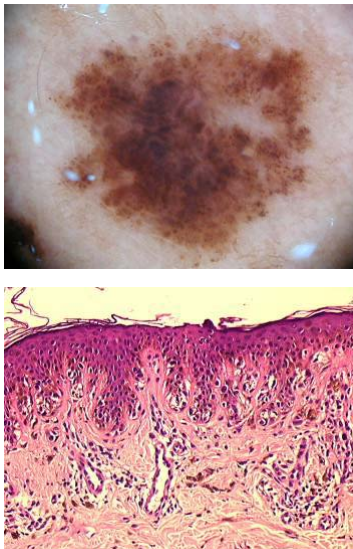
Lentigo maligna

## Melanoma in situ, “pagetoide”



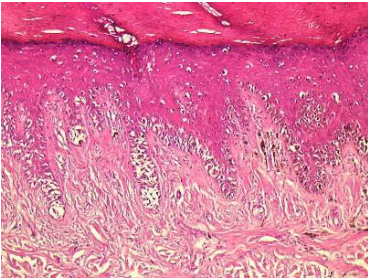
- Proliferazione di melanociti con ampio citoplasma chiaro con crescita “aggressiva” nei confronti dell’epidermide ma sono confinati in essa.
- I melanociti maligni infiltrano gli sproni epiteliali a nidi con margini irregolari o a cellule singole e si estendono sino agli strati più superficiali dell’epidermide.
- Gli sproni epiteliali infiltrati appaiono aumentati di dimensioni ed espansi.

## Melanoma in situ, tipo nevo displastico

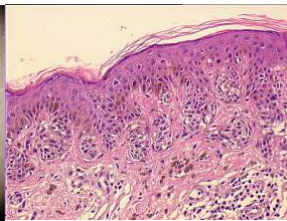


Proliferazione intraepiteliale di melanociti atipici con aspetto lentiginoso, a cellule singole e a nidi, con infiltrazione dell’epidermide (crescita aggressiva). Si associa fibroplasia, neogenesi vascolare e infiltrato infiammatorio dermico; l’infiltrato, nel melanoma in situ non prende contatto con l’epidermide e la neoplasia.

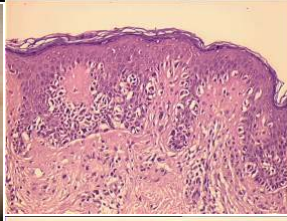
## Melanoma in situ, acrale lentiginoso



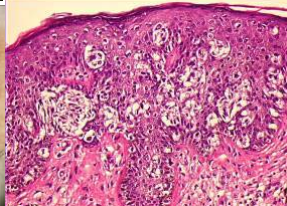
Proliferazione prevalentemente giunzionale e parabasale di melanociti atipici con aspetti “dendritici” isolati o a nidi confluenti. Eliminazione transepidermica di pigmento melanico. Acanthosi dell’epidermide e infiltrato infiammatorio dermico.



Nevo giunzionale / composto

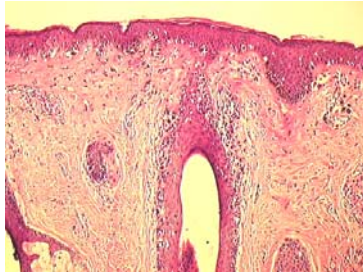


Nevo displastico



Melanoma in situ / in fase di crescita orizzontale

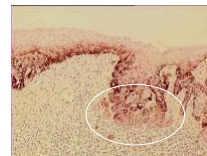
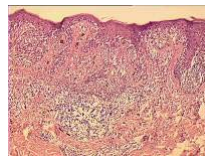
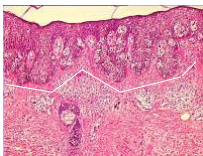
# Lentigo maligna



- Lesione piatta irregolarmente pigmentata che interessa la cute della faccia di pazienti anziani.
- Caratterizzata da una proliferazione di melanociti atipici lungo la giunzione dermo epidermica in una cute atrofica.
- Presenza di nidi giunzionali di cellule fusate che si estendono lungo gli annessi.
- Quando compare invasione spesso si dimostra un aspetto simil pagetoide con associato infiltrato infiammatorio dermico.
- Nel derma è presente elastosi.

## Fase di crescita radiale/orizzontale

- Melanoma in situ, intraepidermico, limitato al di sopra della membrana basale dell'epidermide.
- Melanoma invasivo, inizialmente infiltrante il derma papillare



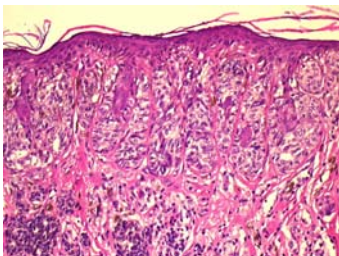
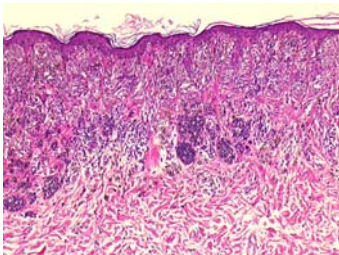
None of 161 patients showed metastases at a mean follow-up of 13.7 years

Guerry D 4th, Synnestvedt M, Elder DE, Schultz D. Lessons from tumor progression: the invasive radial growth phase of melanoma is common, incapable of metastasis, and indolent. J Invest Dermatol. 1993 Mar;100(3):342S-345S.

## Diagnosi differenziali (HGP)

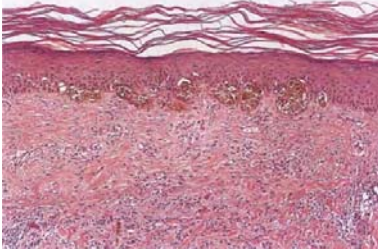
- Nevo giunzionale/composto (acrale, della cute dei genitali, della cintura, ecc.)
- Nevo displastico
- Nevo pigmentato a cellule fusate (nevo di Reed)
- Nevo a cellule epitelioidi e fusate, giunzionale/superficiale e varianti
- Nevo persistente (c.d. ricorrente o pseudomelanoma di Ackerman)

## Nevo “attivato”



Sotto l'influenza della luce solare o di altri fattori (PUVA, gravidanza, uso di ormoni, pazienti HIV positivi ed immunodepressi, ecc) i nevi possono diventare più scuri ed acquisire caratteri istopatologici che simulano un nevo displastico.

# Nevo persistente



- Lesione pigmentata che insorge in sede di incompleta asportazione di un nevo
- Può simulare clinicamente ed istologicamente un melanoma
- Dimensione variabile, ma spesso di pochi mm; margini irregolari
- Forma spesso asimmetrica; lesioni multiple
- Melanociti con atipie e architettura lentiginosa in corrispondenza della cicatrice; residui di nevo in profondità.

## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

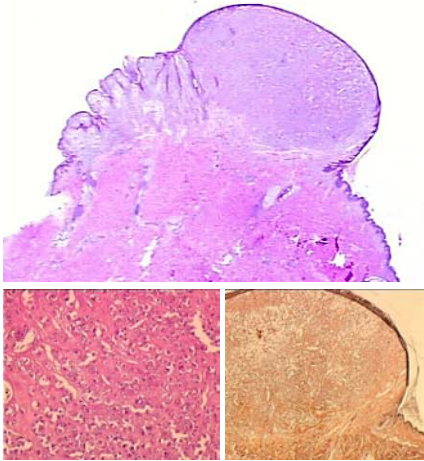
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- squamomelanocytic tumor.

## Nodulo di proliferazione dermico in nevo congenito



- I noduli possono presenti nel derma superficiale o profondo
- Noduli spesso ipercellulati con cellule epitelioidi, fusate o piccole, ben delimitati, scarsamente pigmentati
- Vari gradi di atipia ma uniformi con reticolo ben rappresentato, mitosi rare o assenti.

de Vooght A, Vanwijck R, Gosseye S, Bayet B. Pseudo-tumoral proliferative nodule in a giant congenital naevus. *Br J Plast Surg.* 2003 Mar;56(2):164-7.

Lowes MA, Norris D, Whitfield M. Benign melanocytic proliferative nodule within a congenital naevus. *Australas J Dermatol.* 2000 May;41(2):109-11.

van Houten AH, van Dijk MC, Schuttelaar ML. Proliferative nodules in a giant congenital melanocytic nevus-case report and review of the literature. *J Cutan Pathol.* 2010 Jul;37(7):764-76.

## Cellular and proliferative dermal nodules in congenital nevi

- **Cellular nodules:** no evidence of proliferation in the form of mitotic activity
- **Cellular and proliferative nodules:** when mitotic activity or other evidence of proliferation (e.g. Ki-67 reactivity) and minimal cytologic atypia is present.
- **Melanocytic tumors of uncertain malignant potential:** when mitotic activity and cytologic atypia is present.

## Features helpful in differentiating cellular nodules and melanoma forming in congenital nevi\*

|                                    | Cellular Nodule            | Melanoma                |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Clinical features</b>           |                            |                         |
| Rapid growth                       | Present                    | May be insidious        |
| Age of onset                       | Neonatal period            | Childhood and adulthood |
| <b>Architecture</b>                |                            |                         |
| Diameter                           | Usually < 5mm              | Often > 5mm             |
| Blending with adjacent nevus cells | Gradual transition present | Abrupt demarcation      |
| Focality                           | May be multifocal          | Unifocal                |
| Ulceration                         | Absent                     | May be present          |
| Expansile/destructive growth       | Absent                     | Present                 |
| <b>Cytology</b>                    |                            |                         |
| High-grade atypia                  | Absent                     | Present                 |
| Mitoses                            | Absent or few              | Often many              |
| Necrosis                           | Absent                     | Often present           |

\*Lesions with intermediate features are best regarded as atypical proliferative nodules and warrant complete excision and close follow-up.

Elder DE, Murphy GF. Melanocytic tumors of the skin. AFIP Atlas of Tumor Pathology, Series 4. ARP Press, 2010; pag.146-7

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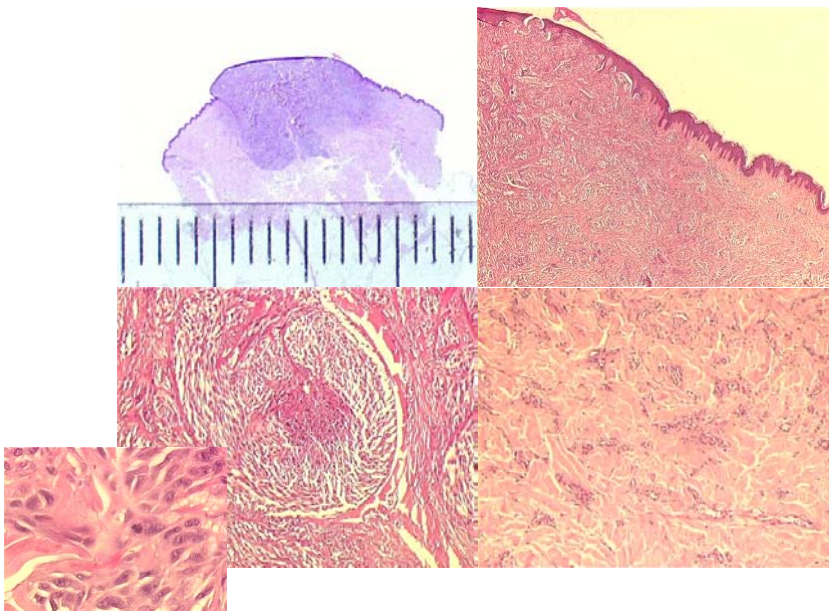
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# Tumore di Spitz atipico

(Barnhill et al., 1999)

- Un subset di proliferazioni melanocitiche spitzoidi con caratteri istologici “preoccupanti” e con evoluzione biologica indeterminata
  - architettura simile al melanoma in VGP
  - citologia simile al nevo di Spitz convenzionale
  - metastasi, quando presenti, tendono ad essere confinate ai linfonodi regionali
- Spesso più grandi dei nevi di Spitz usuali: >2mm
- Aspetto clinico altrimenti simile al comune nevo di Spitz

## Tumore di Spitz atipico



# Tumore di Spitz atipico

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Spitz classico</b></li> <li>▪ Dimensione: &lt;1 cm</li> <li>▪ Simmetrico</li> <li>▪ Ben demarcato</li> <li>▪ Nidi regolari</li> <li>▪ Estensione profonda assente</li> <li>▪ Nodulo espansivo assente</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Spitz atipico</b></li> <li>▪ Dimensione: &gt;1 cm</li> <li>▪ Asimmetrico</li> <li>▪ Non ben demarcato</li> <li>▪ Nidi irregolari</li> <li>▪ Estensione profonda presente</li> <li>▪ Nodulo espansivo talora presente</li> </ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Barnhill RL, Argenyi ZB, From L, Glass LF, Maize JC, Mihm MC Jr, Rabkin MS, Ronan SG, White WL, Piepkorn M. Atypical Spitz nevi/tumors: lack of consensus for diagnosis, discrimination from melanoma, and prediction of outcome. Hum Pathol. 1999 May;30(5):513-20.

## SLNB in Spitzoid Tumors

| Study           | Dx                | N+/N  | Age   | Survival |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|----------|
| MSK 2002        | "controversial"   | 5/10  | 21    | 100%     |
| Michigan '03    | Atypical Spitzoid | 8/18  | 16    | 100%     |
| Michigan '04    | MM/MELTUMP        | 12/14 | 8.5   | 100%     |
| Colorado '05    | MM/aSpitz         | 8/20  | 8-20  | 100%     |
| Pittsburgh '06  | atypical Spitz    | 3/10  | "< 17 | 100%     |
| Florence IT '06 | atypical Spitz    | 4/12  | 23    | 100%     |

### Differing Interpretations:

metastatic potential may be under-diagnosed"

"SLNB aids in confirming a diagnosis of melanoma"

"Long-term follow-up needed before SLNB can become a standard of care in pediatric melanoma or as a diagnostic tool to distinguish the atypical Spitz nevus from melanoma."

Xu X and Elder DE Practical approaches to problematic melanocytic lesions. Personal course.

## Features helpful in differentiating Spitz tumor and nodular melanoma°

|                             | Spitz Tumor                | Nodular Melanoma             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Architecture</b>         |                            |                              |
| *Diameter                   | Usually < 10mm             | Usually > 10 mm              |
| *Symmetry                   | Usually present            | Often absent                 |
| *Lateral borders            | Sharply demarcated         | Often poorly demarcated      |
| *Irregular nesting          | Uncommon                   | Common                       |
| *Ulceration                 | Absent                     | Often present                |
| *Deep extension (into fat)  | Uncommon                   | Common in thick tumors       |
| *Expansile nodule           | Uncommon                   | Common                       |
| *Cellularity                | Variable, nested           | Dense, sheet-like, cohesive  |
| Epidermal hyperplasia       | Present                    | Minimal or absent            |
| Junctional proliferation    | Discontinuous              | Often continuous             |
| Junctional nest orientation | Perpendicular to epidermis | Random                       |
| Pagetoid spread             | Inconspicuous or absent    | Often apparent               |
| Pigment distribution        | Little or no pigment       | Patchy, asymmetric           |
| Nesting pattern at base     | Small, uniform             | Larger, variable             |
| Nuclear pleomorphism        | Mild or moderate           | May be severe                |
| <b>Cytology</b>             |                            |                              |
| *Mitoses in lower third     | Absent                     | Often present                |
| *Maturation/zonation        | Present                    | Generally absent             |
| *Deep border                | Infiltrating               | Rounded, pushing, fascicular |
| Kamino bodies               | Single and confluent       | Inconspicuous or absent      |
| Chromatin pattern           | Delicate, evenly dispersed | Coarse, clumped              |
| Necrosis                    | Absent                     | Often present                |

°Nodular melanoma lack radial growth phase at the periphery, which is diagnostic of melanoma, rules out Spitz tumor. Item marked with an\* are elements of Barnhill (1995,1999) and Spatz (1999) grading system for atypical Spitz tumors. Elder DE, Murphy GF. Melanocytic tumors of the skin. AFIP Atlas of Tumor Pathology, Series 4. ARP Press, 2010.

## Tumore di Spitz atipico: grading

- Et  superiore a 10 anni (1 punto)
- Tumore di diametro > 10 mm (1 punto)
- Estensione al tessuto adiposo, ulcerazione o mitosi da 6 a 8 per mm<sup>2</sup> (2 punti per ciascuno)
- Mitosi superiori 8 per mm<sup>2</sup> (5 punti)

-----

0-2 punti: basso rischio

3-4 punti: rischio intermedio

5-11 punti: rischio elevato

- Spatz A. et al. Spitz tumors in children: a grading system for risk stratification. Arch Dermatol 1999; 135:282
- Barnhill RL, Argenyi ZB, From L, Glass LF, Maize JC, Mihm MC Jr, Rabkin MS, Ronan SG, White WL, Piepkorn M. Atypical Spitz nevi/tumors: lack of consensus for diagnosis, discrimination from melanoma, and prediction of outcome. Hum Pathol. 1999 May;30(5):513-20
- Barnhill RL, Flotte TJ, Fleischli M, Perez-Atayde A. Cutaneous melanoma and atypical Spitz tumors in childhood. Cancer. 1995 Nov 15;76(10):1833-45

## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

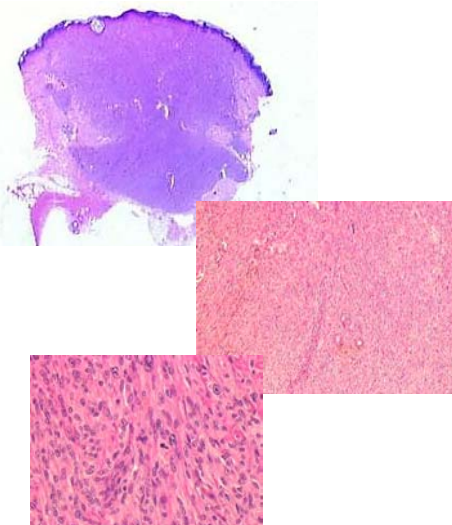
### Superficial variant of borderline melanocytic tumors:

- superficial atypical Spitz tumor;
- de novo intraepidermal epithelioid melanocytic dysplasia

### Dermal variant of borderline melanocytic tumors:

- atypical proliferative nodules in congenital nevus;
- atypical Spitz tumor;
- **atypical cellular blue nevus:**
- borderline melanocytic tumor arising in a deep penetrating nevus;
- pigmented epithelioid melanocytoma;
- paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor;
- squamomelanocytic tumor.

## Atypical cellular blue nevus



- Clinicopathologic features intermediate between typical cellular blue nevus (CBN) and the rare malignant blue nevus (MBN)/malignant melanoma arising in a CBN.
- Architectural atypia (infiltrative margin and/or asymmetry) and/or cytologic atypia (hypercellularity, nuclear pleomorphism, hyperchromasia, mitotic figures, and/or necrosis).
- Histologic features of ACBN are also those of MBN. Because of these intermediate clinicopathologic features, ACBN warrant close scrutiny and long-term follow-up.

Tran TA, Carlson JA, Basaca PC, Mihm MC. Cellular blue nevus with atypia (atypical cellular blue nevus): a clinicopathologic study of nine cases. J Cutan Pathol. 1998 May;25(5):252-8.

# Atypical cellular blue nevus

## Pathology features

- Size greater than 3cm
- Increased cellularity
- Cellular polymorphism (focal areas of atypia in background of cellular blue nevus)
- Increased mitotic activity (but less than 2 mitoses/square mm and no atypical mitoses)
- Areas of necrosis

Murali R, McCarthy SW, and Scolyer RA. Blue Nevi and Related Lesions: A Review Highlighting Atypical and Newly Described Variants, Distinguishing Features and Diagnostic Pitfalls. Adv Anat Pathol 2009;16:365-82.

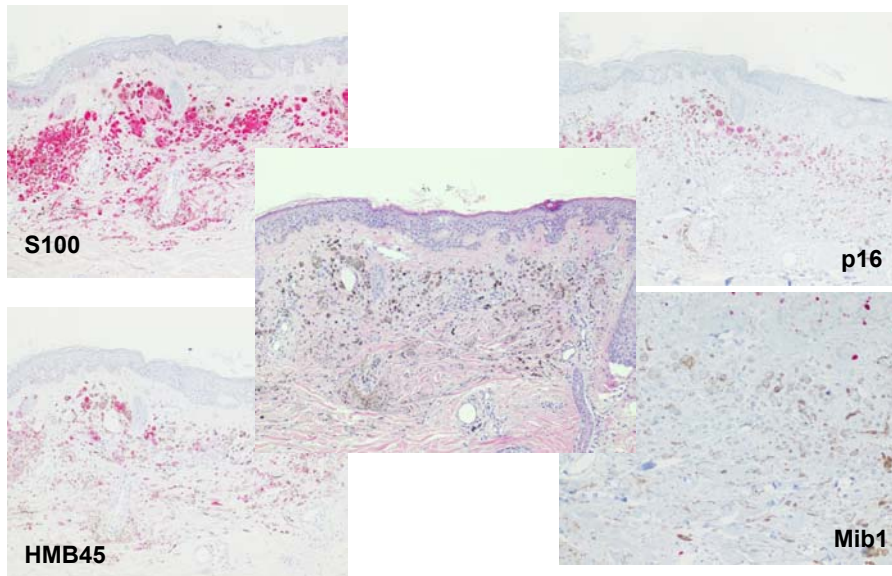
# Atypical cellular blue nevus

## Differential diagnoses

|                         | Cellular blue nevus        | Atypical cellular blue nevus | Malignant blue nevus             | Pigmented epithelioid melanocytoma |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Cytologic atypia        | Rare to occasional         | Intermediate                 | Severe                           | Variable                           |
| Mitotic activity        | Rare                       | Usually <3/mm <sup>2</sup>   | High, usually >3/mm <sup>2</sup> | Low, none to <3/mm <sup>2</sup>    |
| Atypical mitosis        | Absent                     | Absent                       | Present                          | Absent                             |
| Necrosis                | Absent                     | Rare                         | Often                            | Rare                               |
| Ulceration              | Rare                       | Rare                         | Sometimes                        | Sometimes                          |
| Lymphovascular invasion | Absent                     | Absent                       | Sometimes                        | Rare                               |
| Epidermal hyperplasia   | Absent                     | Absent                       | Absent                           | Frequent                           |
| Pigmentation            | Variable                   | Variable                     | Variable                         | Heavy                              |
| Border                  | Usually well circumscribed | Usually well circumscribed   | Often infiltrative               | Usually infiltrative               |
| Immunohistochemistry    | HMB45+                     | HMB45+                       | HMB45+                           | HMB45+                             |

Artur Zembowicz, Pushkar A. Phadke. Blue Nevi and Variants: An Update. Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine: March 2011, Vol. 135, No. 3, pp. 327-336.

## Epithelioid blue nevus



## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

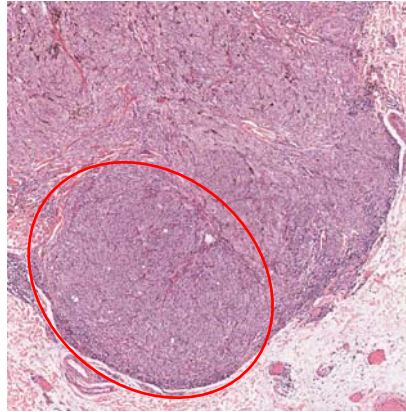
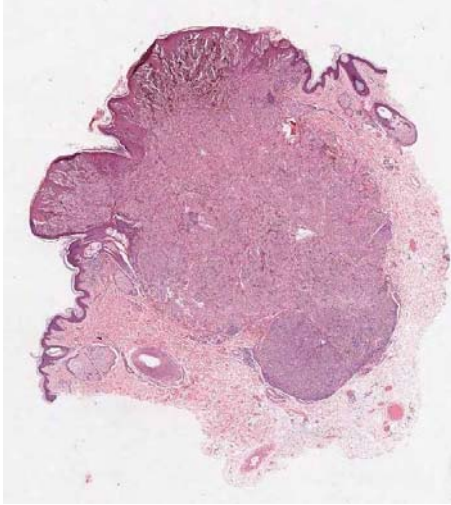
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- (*intraepidermal/horizontal growth phase (HGP) melanoma*)

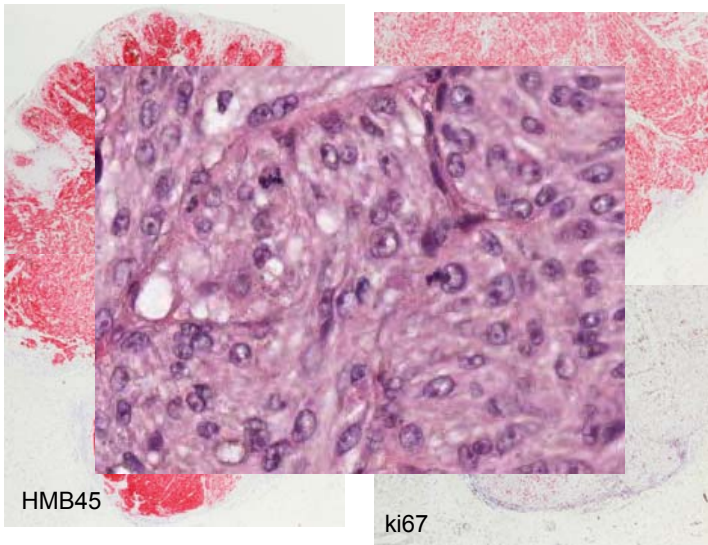
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- paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor;
- squamomelanocytic tumor.

## Borderline melanocytic tumor arising in a deep penetrating nevus



## Borderline melanocytic tumor arising in a deep penetrating nevus



HMB45

ki67

## Borderline melanocytic tumor arising in a deep penetrating nevus

- Background melanocytic proliferation exhibiting all of the typical features of a deep penetrating nevus (DPN) in which were present additional features not encountered in the classic DPN.
- Cellular proliferative areas arranged to the long axis of the epidermis, in contradistinction to the dominant orderly vertical orientation seen in the typical DPN, or a nodular expansile growth at the base.
- Such foci also manifested enhanced cytologic atypia with cellular enlargement and increased mitotic activity, including marginal mitoses
- 4 of 7 patients had positive sentinel lymph nodes.
- All patients except one are alive and well without any clinical evidence of recurrent disease at a mean follow-up period of 4 years.

Magro CM, Crowson AN, Mihm MC Jr, Gupta K, Walker MJ, Solomon G. The dermal-based borderline melanocytic tumor: a categorical approach. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2010 Mar;62(3):469-79.

## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

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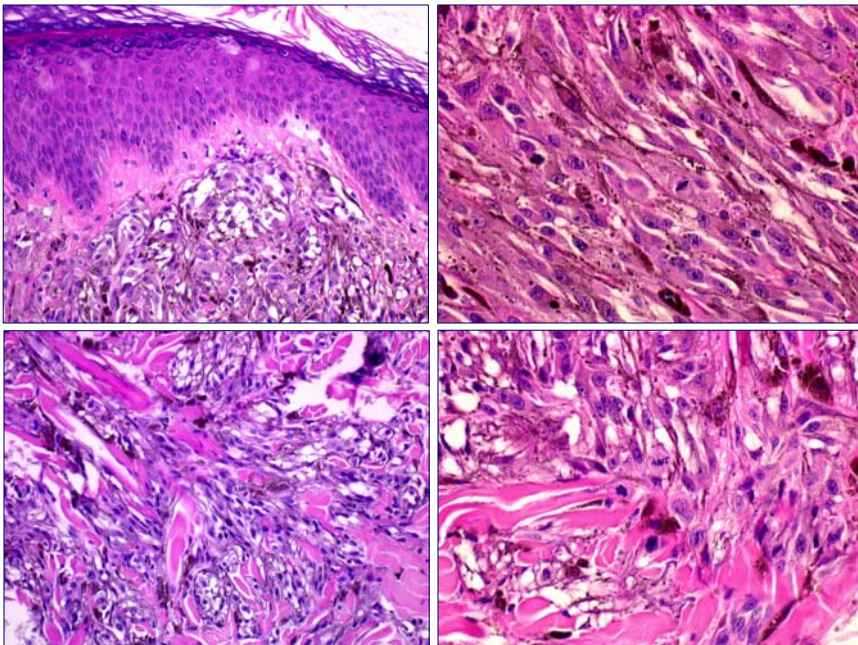
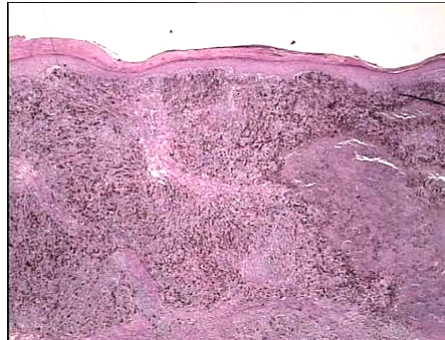
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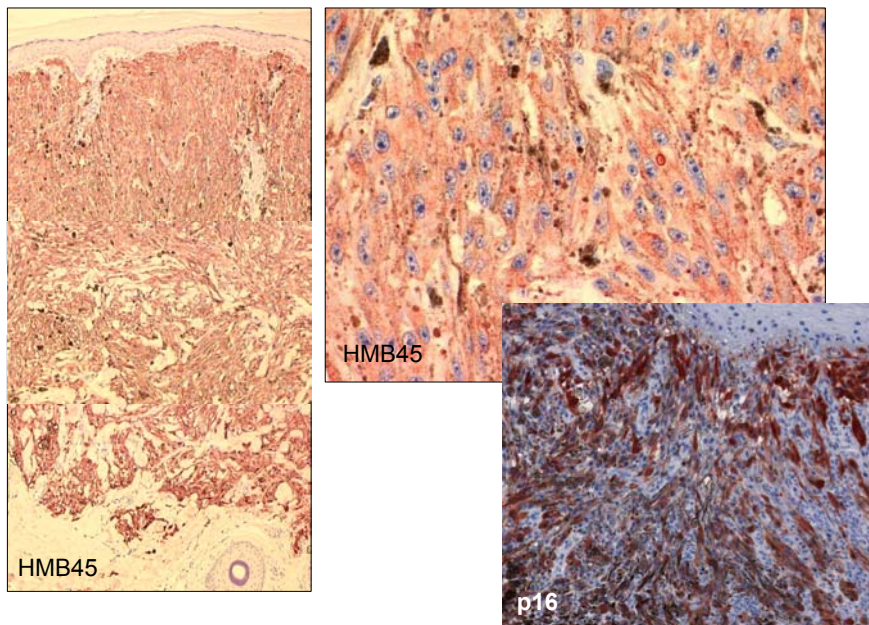
## Melanocitoma epitelioido pigmentato



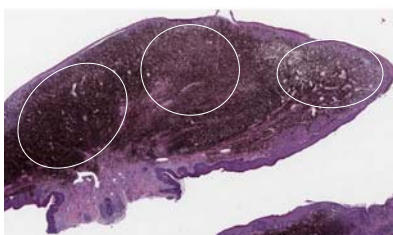
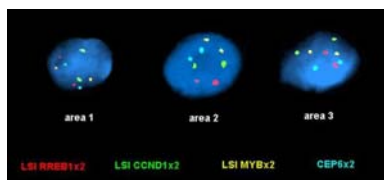
Crowson AN, Magro CM, Mihm MC Jr. Malignant melanoma with prominent pigment synthesis: "animal type" melanoma--a clinical and histological study of six cases with a consideration of other melanocytic neoplasms with prominent pigment synthesis. Hum Pathol. 1999;30(5):543-50.



## Immunoreattività



## FISH test: negativo



Cut off secondo Gerami, 2009

- ⌘ 10.00 *CCND1*\* gain  
(positive  $\geq 38\%$ )
- ⌘ 32.00 *RREB1/CEP6*\*\* % gain  
(positive  $> 55\%$ )
- ⌘ 30.00 % loss of *MYB* against *CEP6*\*\*\*  
(positive  $\geq 40\%$ )
- ⌘ 15.33 *RREB1* \*\*\*\* gain  
(positive  $\geq 29\%$ )

\* Probe for the *CCND1* gene (located at 11q13)

\*\* Probe for the *RREB1* gene (located at 6p25)

\*\*\* Probe for the *MYB* gene (located at 6q23-q23)

\*\*\*\* Centromeric probe (*CEP6*) for the ploidy level of chromosome 6

# Melanocitoma epitelioides pigmentato

| Caratteri Generali   | Letteratura                                                          |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Età/sexo             | Media 28 anni (7 mesi – 85 anni)/ M = 49% - F = 51%                  |
| Sede                 | Estremità 43-44%, tronco 27-30%, testa e collo 24-25%, genitali 2-5% |
| Dimensioni           | 2-10 mm                                                              |
| Ulcerazione          | Solitamente assente                                                  |
| Regressione          | Assente                                                              |
| TIL                  | Solitamente assente o non brisk                                      |
| Invasione vasi/nervi | Assente                                                              |
| Invasione annessi    | Spesso presente                                                      |
| Livello              | La maggior parte 4° livello                                          |
| Spessore             | Media 3.3 mm (1.4-10.5 mm)                                           |
| Mitosi               | Rare (< 3 per mm <sup>2</sup> )                                      |
| Linfonodo sentinella | Positivo nel 41-47% dei casi                                         |
| Sopravvivenza        | 90-98% (follow up tra 0.5-17 anni); giovani prognosi migliore        |
| Metastasi a distanza | Rare (9%) (2 casi con metastasi epatica e 1 in transit)              |

- Il melanocitoma epitelioides pigmentato è una neoplasia melanocitica *borderline* o un melanoma a basso grado
- Applicare analisi di genetica molecolare (FISH) in tutti i casi istologicamente diagnosticati o sospetti oltre alla colorazione immunocitochimica con siero anti p16
- Segnalare al clinico e genetista il paziente da tenere sotto controllo e da valutare per un possibile complesso di Carney
- Chiedere una seconda opinione istopatologica

# PEM Differential Diagnosis

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- Cellular blue nevus
- Malignant blue nevus
- Deep penetrating nevus
- Pigmented spindle cell nevus
- Pigmented epithelioid variant of Spitz nevus
- Regressed melanoma with prominent melanophages

Xu X and Elder DE Practical approaches to problematic melanocytic lesions. Personal course.

## Borderline melanocytic tumors: variants

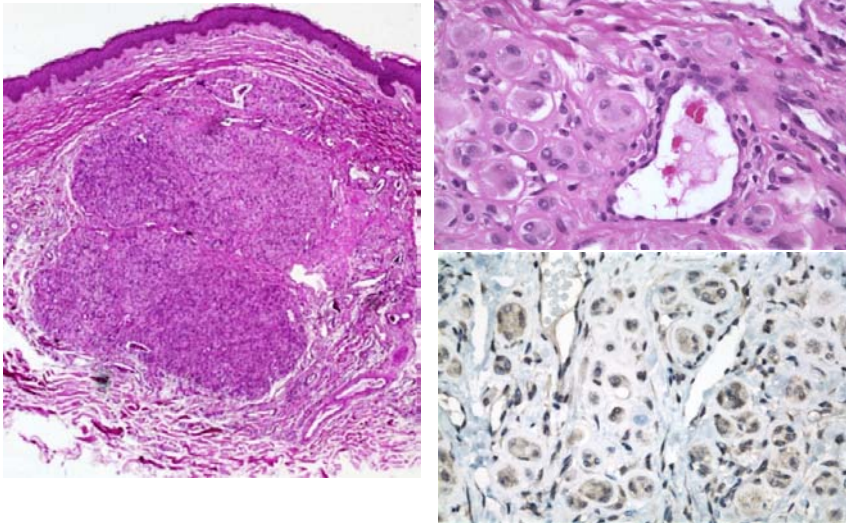
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- **paranglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor;**
- squamomelanocytic tumor.

## Paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor



## Paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor

- A tumor composed of cells disposed in nests surrounding by a rich network of branching proliferative capillaries.
- A rare dermal melanocytic lesion, unusual in children that should be carefully diagnosed by histopathologic observation, immunohistochemistry (vimentin, S-100, Melan A +++; Ki67<1% in neoplastic cells; endothelial cells with an unusual high proliferation rate)
- No local recurrences, nodal metastasis and excellent prognosis reported in already described cases.
- Actually classified by AFIP (Elder DE, Murphy GF, 2010) as “melanocytic tumor of uncertain malignant potential”

Cimpean AM, Ceașu R, Raica M. Paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor: a case report with particular features. Int J Clin Exp Pathol. 2009 Nov 20;3(2):222-5.

Sarma DP, Teruya B, Wang B. Paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor: a case report. Cases J. 2008 Jul 18;1(1):48.

Deyrup AT, Althof P, Zhou M, Morgan M, Solomon AR, Bridge JA, Weiss SW. Paraganglioma-like dermal melanocytic tumor: a unique entity distinct from cellular blue nevus, clear cell sarcoma, and cutaneous melanoma. Am J Surg Pathol. 2004 Dec;28(12):1579-86.

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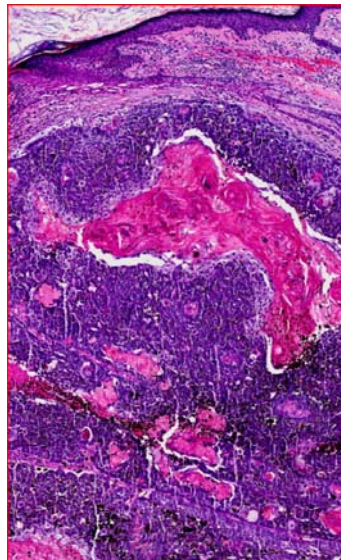
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- **squamomelanocytic tumor.**

## Tumore squamo-melanocitico dermico

- Neoplasia molto rara\*
- Noduli rosso-nerastri del viso (> 1 cm)
- Età: 44-87 anni
- 3 M e 2 F
- In un caso è stata documentata una lentigo maligna come precursore
- Follow up dei casi descritti (media 3.5 anni) senza ripresa o metastasi
- Nodulo dermico senza connessione con l'epidermide; commistione tra carcinoma spinocellulare e melanoma.

\*Pool SE et al Human Pathol 30, 525, 1999



# Take home message

- La maggior parte delle lesioni pigmentate possono essere facilmente diagnosticate, tuttavia esiste un piccolo sottogruppo di lesioni problematiche.
- Una buona qualità del preparato è il presupposto fondamentale per una diagnosi corretta.
- Le notizie cliniche (dermatoscopia) sono spesso indispensabili.
- Le neoplasie melanocitiche superficiali (non tumorigeniche) possono recidivare localmente mentre quelle dermiche (tumorigeniche) possono potenzialmente sviluppare metastasi.
- Segnalare nel referto istopatologico, dove necessario, l'indicazione all'esame del linfonodo sentinella.
- Nei casi più difficili è importante richiedere una seconda opinione.

## Casa di Cura San Pio X - Milano

ANATOMIA PATOLOGICA



Dr. Stefania Rao  
Dr. Annamaria Ferrari  
Dr. Cristina Campidelli  
Dr. Federica Cetti Serbelloni  
Sig.ra Loredana Alasio



## I.R.C.C.S. Policlinico San Donato, Milano



Dr. Barbara Rubino  
Dr. Barbara Bruni  
Dr. Antonella Festa  
Dr. Iasi Gabriela  
Dr. Sara Leoncini  
Dr. Anna Carini

... e tutto il personale tecnico e amministrativo dei due laboratori

**Grazie per l'attenzione!**

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