

MELANOMA *IN SITU* OF THE PENIS: A VERY RARE ENTITY WITH AN EVEN RARER PRESENTATION



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INTRODUCTION

Primary penile melanoma is a rare malignant neoplasm, representing no more than 0.1% of all extraocular melanomas and less than 1.5% of all primary penile malignant tumors,. To the best of our knowledge, penile melanoma *in situ* is even rarer, with only nine cases reported. Thereby, there are no worldwide recommendations regarding the standard approach and follow-up. In most cases, the prognosis is poor, with an overall survival of 33% at five years. Therefore, early diagnosis is of paramount importance.

RESULTS

A 28 years-old caucasian male, with no past medical history, presented as an outpatient with a pigmented lesion in the penile glans, that enlarged during the previous 2 months, not revealing enlarged inguinal lymph nodes or other skin or mucosal alterations. A biopsy was performed histological features of melanoma *in situ*.

It was decided to perform conservative surgical treatment with local excision of the neoplasm with a partial resurfacing of the glans using a split thickness skin graft from the thigh.

One year after surgery, the patient is asymptomatic, without neither local recurrence nor any lower tract urinary symptoms or erectile dysfunction.

MATERIAL & METHODS

The authors present a case of melanoma *in situ* of the penile glans treated with partial glans resurfacing using a thigh skin graft.



Fig 1. Pigmented lesion in penile glans.

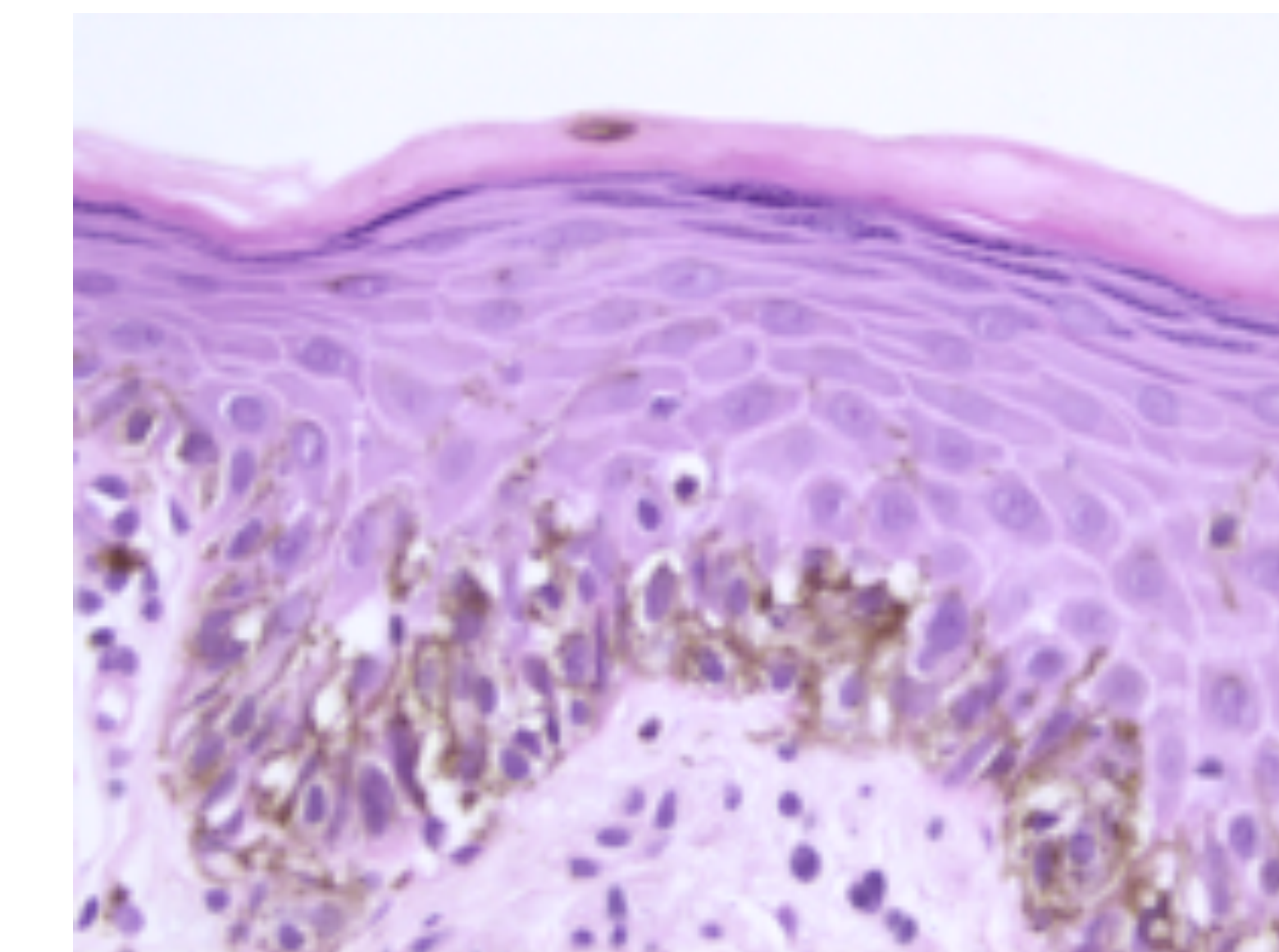


Fig 2. Histological features of melanoma *in situ*.



Fig 3. Glans resurfacing final surgical result.

CONCLUSIONS

Melanoma is one of the most dangerous tumors due to its potential of systemic metastization. Early diagnosis has a major impact in overall survival.

Surgical approach is the standard treatment of localized penile melanoma. Male genital location is a risk factor for subclinical spread and positive margins, because of the concern with maximum organ preservation. With so few cases reported, there is no standard approach. The main objective is to achieve negative margins as it reduces recurrence and improves long-term survival.