Gastric metastases from invasive primary mucosal epithelioid malignant melanoma of the hard palate: report of the first case in the English literature

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Abstract:

Melanocytes arise from the neural crest and migrate to the epidermis, meninges, uveal tract and ectodermal mucosa. Normal gastric mucosa lacks melanocytes. A 64-year-old woman presented to us with nausea and vomiting. She had a past history of invasive primary mucosal epithelioid malignant melanoma of the hard palate 21 months ago, treated by a wide surgical excision. Gastroscopy revealed multiple punched out ulcers involving the stomach and the first part of duodenum. Immunohistology and clinicopathologic correlation established the diagnosis of metastatic gastric malignant melanoma. To our knowledge, this is the first report in the English literature about gastric metastases arising from primary palatal mucosal melanoma.

Keywords:

gastric • melanoma • metastasis • oral • stomach

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