

Malignant melanoma of the nasal mucosa presenting as haemangioma

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A 73-year-old woman was hospitalised for 1 month because she had epistaxis from the right nostril. Physical examination revealed a solitary, dark red, uneven mass in the front of the right lower turbinate, which bled easily after touching (**Figure 1**). Computed tomography scan demonstrated soft tissue shadows of about 2.0 cm diameter in the anterior part of the right nasal cavity (**Figure 2**). The preoperative diagnosis was haemangioma, but the histopathological analysis showed that this was a malignant melanoma. The mass was strongly positive for S-100 protein, Melan-A, CyclinD1, HMB-45 PD-L1(DAKO 22C3), CPS (Combined Positive Score) <1 and BRAF gene V600E wild type. Local radiotherapy was given after surgery. The final diagnosis in this patient was primary mucosal malignant melanoma of the right nasal cavity. The patient has been regularly followed up without any evidence of recurrence.

Nasal mucosal melanoma is rare, accounting for fewer than 1% of all cases of melanoma. The early symptoms are atypical, and this is a highly invasive condition which has a poor prognosis and is easy to miss. It is seen more commonly in men than women, and is found mostly in the nasal cavity. Generally, it is treated by surgery, and radiotherapy is not very effective in treating this disease.

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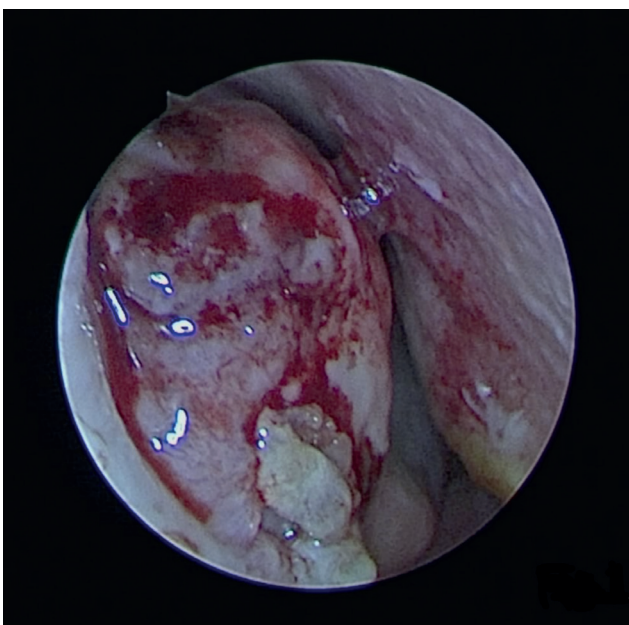


Figure 1. Nasal endoscopy showing a dark red mass in the front of the right lower turbinate.



Figure 2. Computed tomography transverse axis showing a soft tissue shadow of approximately 2.0 cm diameter in the front of the right nasal cavity (arrow).