



# HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

*Ophthalmology*. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2024 December 01.

Published in final edited form as:

*Ophthalmology*. 2023 December ; 130(12): 1351. doi:10.1016/j.ophtha.2023.02.011.

## Amelanotic Melanoma Masquerading as Ocular Surface Squamous Neoplasia

Thomas A. Weppelmann, MD, PhD, MPH<sup>1</sup>, Curtis E. Margo, MD, MPH<sup>2</sup>, Edgar M. Espana, MD<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cornea and External Disease, Department of Ophthalmology, Morsani College of Medicine, University of South Florida, Tampa, USA

<sup>2</sup> Pathology and Cell Biology, Morsani College of Medicine, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA

<sup>3</sup> Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology, Morsani College of Medicine, university of South Florida, Tampa, USA

---

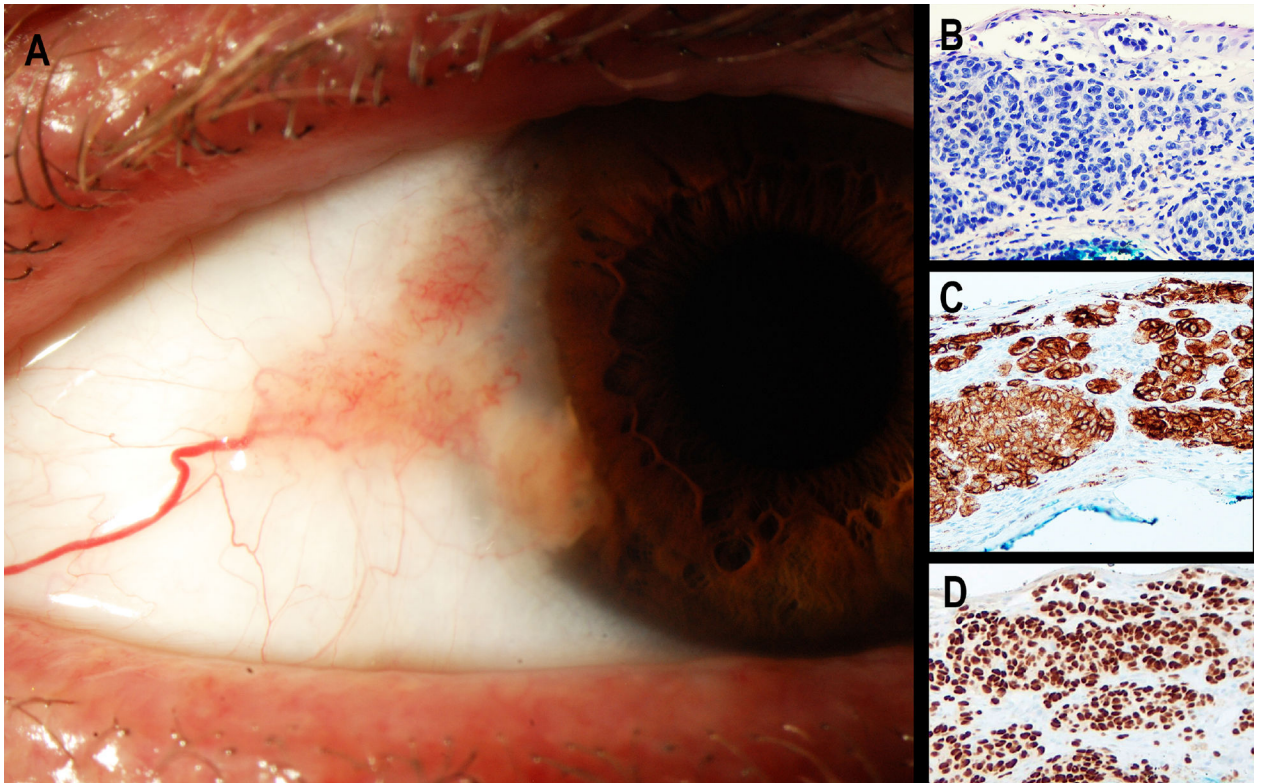
### Acknowledgement

This study was supported by NIH/NEI grants EY029395 and EY034114 awarded to Dr. Edgar M. Espana.

---

\***Correspondence:** Thomas A. Weppelmann, MD, PhD, MPH, Address: University of South Florida Health Faculty Office Building, 13220 USF Laurel Drive, Tampa, Florida, 33612, taweppelmann@usf.edu.

**Publisher's Disclaimer:** This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

**Descriptive Caption.**

A 53-year-old white man was referred for evaluation of a pterygium-like growth on his right eye for two months suspicious for ocular surface squamous neoplasia (Fig A). Excisional biopsy demonstrated irregular nests of intraepithelial and stromal melanocytes without visible pigment (Fig B). There was focally moderate cellular atypia and a low proliferative index. Cells expressed HMB-45 throughout (Fig C) and PRAME preferentially expressed Antigen in Melanoma (PRAME) (Fig D). Fluorescence in-situ hybridization assay revealed an increased copy number of chromosome 6p25 (including transcription factor RREB1). The clinical diagnosis of conjunctival melanomas is rarely entertained when lesions lack pigment.