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Amelanotic Melanoma Masquerading as Ocular Surface Squamous Neoplasia

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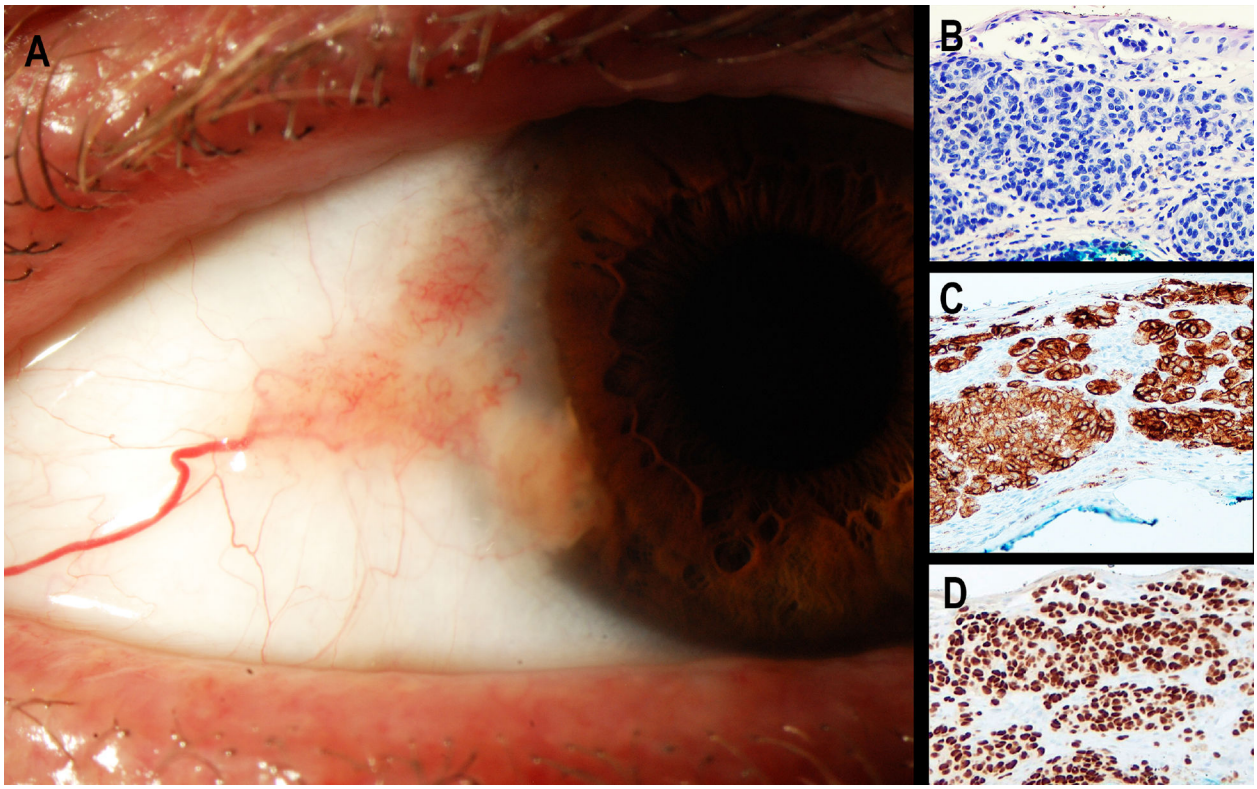

Descriptive Caption.

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 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.