

**Metastatic urothelial carcinoma**☆☆☆

Dear Editor,

A 61-year-old-man of the South of Spain presented at the Dermatology Department at Hospital Regional Universitario de Malaga with multiple painful erythematous-violaceous nodules on the chin, on the trunk, and the scalp (Fig. 1). The patient had been diagnosed with muscle-invasive micropapillary bladder cancer one year before and received treatment with radiotherapy and chemotherapy with cisplatin in a sparring bladder protocol treatment. A skin biopsy of the trunk was performed, showed medium-sized atypical cells arranged in nests or sheets, which exhibited round-ovoid nuclei and abundant eosinophilic cytoplasm, and they formed small rosette-like aggregates, in the superficial and deep dermis (Fig. 2). Immunohistochemical stains with CK-20 and CK-7 were positive.

The abdominal-pelvic CT image showed diffuse wall bladder thickening after therapy have been finished.

Multiple brain lesions compatible with metastasis were observed in the cranial MRI. Computerized tomography showed mediastinal lymph nodes, subcutaneous nodules, and pulmonary parenchyma infiltration compatible with carcinomatous lymphangitis. The scintigraphy image showed multiple bone metastases.

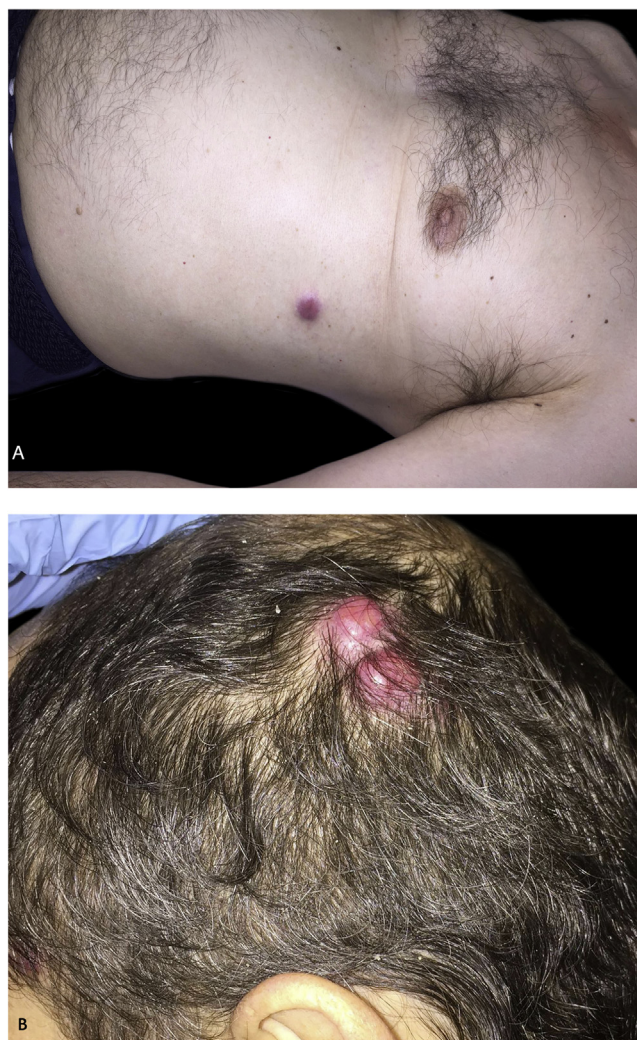
The patient started treatment with pembrolizumab, oral corticosteroids and holocranial radiotherapy (20 Gy), but he died seven months later.

The urothelial carcinomas are the second most common genitourinary tumors.<sup>1</sup> The localized disease represents about 80% of cases, with the remainder presenting with regional or distant involvement.<sup>1</sup> The most usual sites of metastases are the lymph nodes, liver, lung, bone, and rarely, brain metastases. Skin metastases from urothelial cancers are uncommon, with an incidence of 0.84%–3.6% and they are considered to be a poor prognostic sign. Metastatic infiltration of the skin may occur due to:<sup>2,3</sup> a) Direct tumor extension; b) Hematogenous or lymphatic spreading; c) Iatrogenic implantation of tumor cells.

The diagnosis requires a high index of clinical suspicion and histological confirmation.

The clinical presentation is quite diverse, and most commonly includes isolated nodular subcutaneous metastases. However, patients also present with diffuse, erythematous, raised infiltrates within the skin. Zosteriform pattern, extramammary Paget's disease, have been documented. Erythema gyratum repens and acanthosis nigricans as paraneoplastic disorders have been reported.<sup>4,5</sup>

A case of urothelial cutaneous metastasis mimicking condylomata acuminata has been reported. Penile metastasis from primary bladder cancer is an extremely rare event.<sup>2</sup>



**Figure 1** Multiple erythematous-violaceous nodules on the trunk (A) and the scalp (B).

Prognosis of patients with bladder cancer cutaneous spreading is generally poor with less than 1-year median survival.<sup>3</sup>

The optimal treatment of urothelial bladder cancer with micropapillary variant histology remains not clear.<sup>4</sup> Although this tumor is associated with adverse clinicopathological features, a recent meta-analysis suggests that micropapillary urothelial bladder cancer does not necessarily mandate different treatment algorithms.<sup>4</sup>

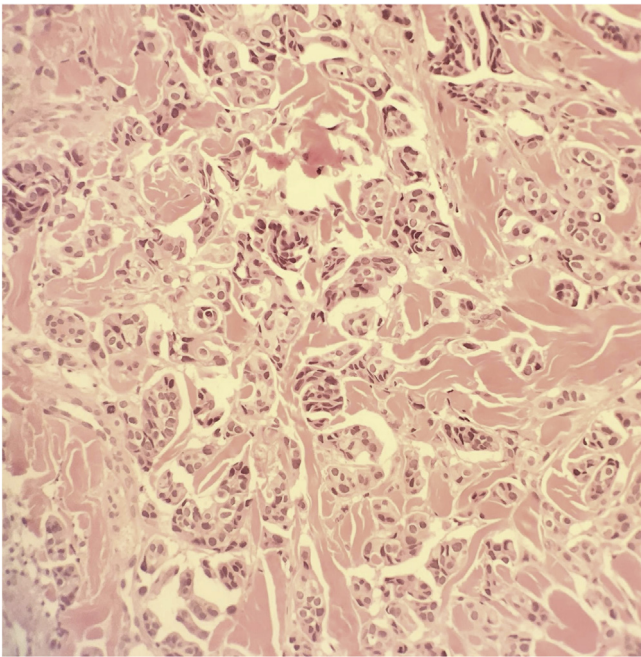
Optimal management of patients with cT1 (tumor invades subepithelial connective tissue, clinical-stage) remains divergent. Each case should be discussed individually considering other clinicopathological factors and discuss management options as part of a shared decision-making process.<sup>4</sup>

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☆☆ Study conducted at the Hospital Regional Universitario de Málaga, Malaga, Spain.



**Figure 2** Medium-sized tumor cells arranged in nests (Hematoxylin & eosin,  $\times 400$ ).

### Authors' contributions

Elisabeth Gómez-Moyano: Data curation; formal analysis; investigation; methodology; project administration; software; supervision; validation; visualization; roles/writing – original draft; writing – review.

Silvestre Martínez García: Formal analysis; investigation; methodology; project administration; software; supervision; validation; visualization; roles/writing – original draft; writing – review.

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Maria Ayala-Blanca: Investigation; methodology; project administration; supervision; validation; visualization; roles/writing – original draft; writing – review.

### Conflicts of interest

None declared.

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## Pemphigus vegetans developing after Mohs micrographic surgery and cryotherapy<sup>☆,☆☆</sup>



Dear Editor,

Pemphigus vegetans (Pveg) is a subtype of pemphigus vulgaris (PV), characterized by flaccid blisters which become erosions and vegetating plaques, typically in the intertrig-

inous areas, face, and scalp.<sup>1</sup> Histologically it presents as pseudoepitheliomatous hyperplasia (PEH) associated with suprabasal acantholysis.

Trauma-induced pemphigus is rare following surgical procedures, with only a few reports occurring after Mohs micrographic surgery (MMS).<sup>2–5</sup> Herein, a patient who developed Pveg after MMS for squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) of his chest and after cryosurgery for actinic keratosis (AKs) at his temple and forehead is presented. To the authors' knowledge, this is the first report of Pveg arising within either an MMS site or site treated by cryosurgery.

An 81-year-old caucasian male presented with several months of an erythematous hyperkeratotic nodule on the right anterior chest. Biopsy confirmed well-differentiated SCC and the patient underwent MMS for tumor removal. Concomitantly he was submitted to cryosurgery on his left temple and forehead for AKs. The postoperative course, initially unremarkable, was complicated by poor wound

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