INCOMPLETE EXCISIONS RATES OF BASAL CELL CARCINOMA

Background/ Purpose of the study
BCC is the most common cause of cancer in the Caucasian population worldwide. Patients who receive the correct treatment at the appropriate timing go on to make good recoveries. There are various approaches to BCC treatment both surgical and non-surgical. In most cases excision is the favored definitive treatment option. When excising tumours surgeons aim for surgically clear margins. Studies have demonstrated differing cure rates depending on the surgical margin.

Method
This audit performed a surgical code search to retrospectively review histopathology records from BCC lesions excised at Wynthenshaw Plastic surgery department over a 3 months period using a surgical code search. We aimed to ascertain the rate of complete excisions and excisions to close margins. The rates of incomplete excision were analysed and compared against multiple variables (site, histological sub group,surgeon, age of patient, gender, geographical location of procedure.)

Results
We found the biggest risk factor for incomplete excision of lesions was the location of the lesion. Lesions on the face and head were more likely to be incompletely excised, there was little correlation between other factors.

Discussion

It is likely that concerns regarding cosmetic outcome and potential for post op complications have a bearing on how close the surgical margins eventually become. All new BCC lesions need to be considered on a case by case basis when deciding on the appropriate treatment, and decisions need to be reached taking into account both the clinicians and patients opinion - especially given the aging demographic in which BCCs are most prevalent.

Biography

Dr Eleanor Rees is a Foundation year 2 trainee at Bolton Foundation trust, North West Deanery, United Kingdom. Dr Rees completed her medical school training at University of Manchester and graduating in 202. Prior to completion of her medical education Dr Rees achieved BSci (hon) from University College London in Natural Sciences. Eleanor is keen to pursuit a career in surgery and share her audit work to date.

References

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Conclusions