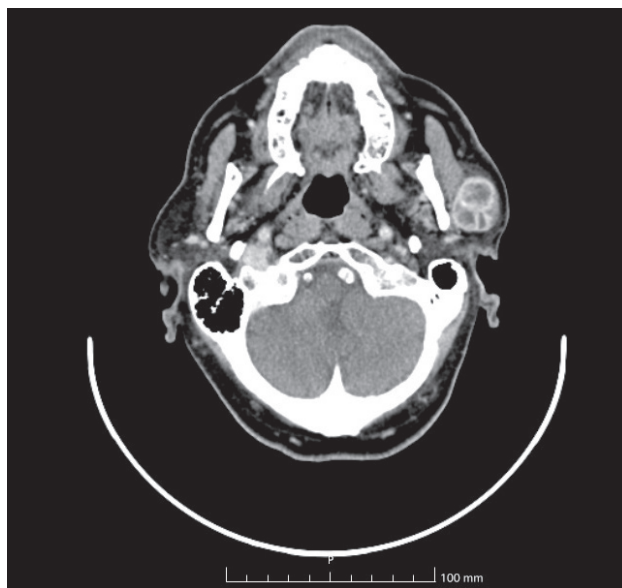
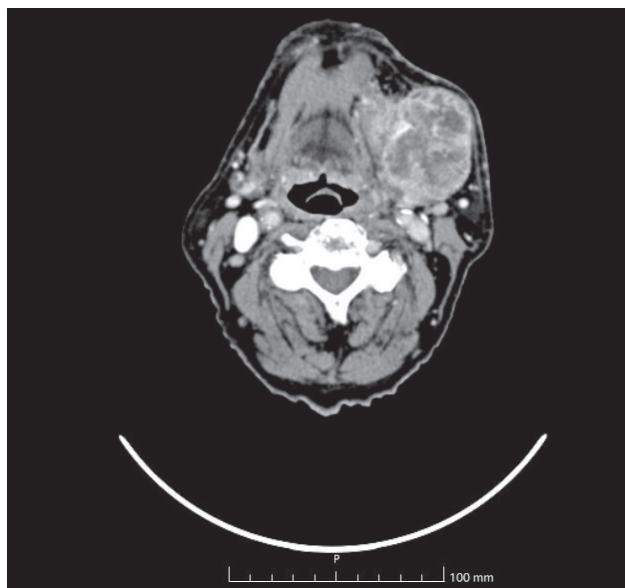


Recurrencia del carcinoma de células de Merkel: Reporte de un caso

Merkel Cell Carcinoma recurrence: A case report

Daniela Barbosa Mateus, Jéssica Abreu

Department of Internal Medicine. Hospital de Vila Franca de Xira (Portugal)



Merkel Cell Carcinoma (MCC) is a rare and aggressive neuroendocrine skin neoplasm. It's characterized by rapid growth, high propensity for local recurrence, and a strong tendency for lymph node involvement and distant metastasis, with a poor prognosis.^{1,2}

The authors present the case of a 91-year-old male with a history of an infiltrative MCC located on the left nasal dorsum, which had been completely excised in 2017. The patient remained under surveillance until 2020 when he was referred to an internal medicine appointment due to the development of two nodular swellings: one on the left parotid gland (measuring 4 cm in diameter, with a hard consistency and non-adherent to deep or superficial planes) and another in the left submandibular region (measuring 8 cm, with similar characteristics). Both masses had appeared within a month.

A cranial and neck computed tomography scan revealed a solid, heterogeneous nodule in the left submandibular region and another nodule of similar characteristics in the left parotid gland. A fine-needle aspiration biopsy of the left submandibular gland confirmed the presence of cytological and immunocytochemical markers consistent with lymph node metastasis from MCC.

The patient was referred to an oncology specialist. A positron emission tomography scan further confirmed the presence of metastatic disease in the parotid and submandibular regions, as well as newly identified liver metastases. A palliative approach with radiotherapy was recommended.

Seven months later, the patient was admitted with acute liver failure. Despite supportive care, the patient's condition rapidly deteriorated, leading to his death.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

SOURCE OF FUNDING

This research has not received specific aid from public sector agencies, the commercial sector or non-profit entities.

ETHICAL ASPECTS

All participants submitted a consent form to be included in this study.

REFERENCES

1. Albores-Saavedra J, Batich K, Chable-Montero F, Sagy N, Schwartz AM, Henson DE. Merkel cell carcinoma demographics, morphology, and survival based on 3870 cases: a population based study. *Journal of cutaneous pathology*. 2010;37(1): 20–27.
2. Santos AL, Magno-Pereira V, Coelho R, Gaspar R, Cardoso H, Lopes J, et al. A Rare Cause of Acute Liver Failure: Diffuse Liver Metastization of Merkel Cell Carcinoma. *GE Portuguese journal of gastroenterology*. 2010;27(3): 203–206.

Correspondencia: danielabarbosamateus@gmail.com

Cómo citar este artículo: Barbosa D, Abreu J.

Merkel Cell Carcinoma recurrence: A case report. *Galia Clin* 2025; 86-3: 32.

Recibido: 01/08/2024 ; Aceptado: 13/12/2024 // <https://doi.org/10.22546/86/3/1335>