Introduction

Background: Sebaceous cell carcinoma is a rare and potentially aggressive adnexal neoplasm with predilection for peri-ocular sites\(^1\). Most commonly, the Meibomian gland and the gland of Zeis in the eyelids, caruncle and eyebrow are affected\(^1\).

Case presentation: Patient presented with a fleshy growth over the nasal aspect of the left eye of 6 months duration with progressive increase in size and loss of vision in the eye. Computed tomography (CT) scan done showed a large, irregular mixed density moderately enhancing left orbital mass. She had a left orbital exenteration done and histopathologic examination of sections of the tumour showed a malignant epithelial neoplasm composed of moderate to markedly pleomorphic cells disposed in nests, cords and sheets invading a desmoplastic stroma and the sclera. The cells have moderately pleomorphic vesicular nuclei, prominent nucleoli and foamy to clear cytoplasm with distinct cell membranes (\textit{Figures 1 and 2}). Features are in keeping with a sebaceous cell carcinoma. She received orbital external beam radiation to the orbit and systemic chemotherapy and is tumour-free on regular follow-up post-treatment.

Conclusion: Sebaceous carcinoma is a rare malignant neoplasm, which can clinically and histologically mimic other benign conditions, thus clinicians and histopathologists require a high level of suspicion for timely diagnosis. Complete tumor eradication remains a challenge hence close patient follow-up is critical to identify recurrence.

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![Figure 1: Photomicrograph showing the histology of sebaceous cell carcinoma: sebaceous epithelial cells are disposed in lobules interspersed by fibrous septae. Haematoxylin and eosin stain. X40 magnification.](image-url)
Figure 2. Photomicrograph showing moderately differentiated sebaceous epithelial cells with abundant foamy to clear cytoplasm. Haematoxylin and eosin stain. X400 magnification.

References