

Endobronchial metastases of malignant melanoma in an ICU patient

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A 78 year old male, was admitted intubated in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) after he had a respiratory arrest. The clinical examination revealed a dark colored skin tumor (6x4cm) of the right shoulder, with satellite pigmented lesions around. The CT-scan revealed consolidation/atelectasis of the right lower lobe in touch with right hilum lymphadenopathy, pleural effusion, and mediastinal lymphadenopathy (Fig. 1).

A flexible fiberoptic bronchoscopy was performed, revealing a pigmented (nevus-like) lesion of the trachea, 2cm before the main carina (Fig. 2), and a similar lesion of RC1 (Fig. 3). Biopsies were taken. The biopsies revealed a malignant melanoma of the skin (Fig. 4) with metastatic infiltration of the bronchial mucosa (Fig. 5 and 6).

The patient died a few days later due to refractory septic shock.

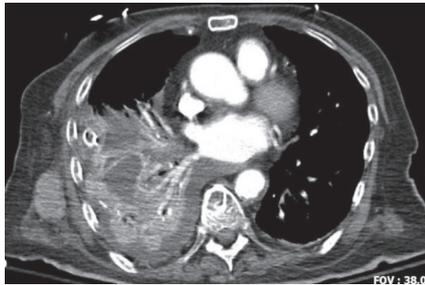


FIGURE 1

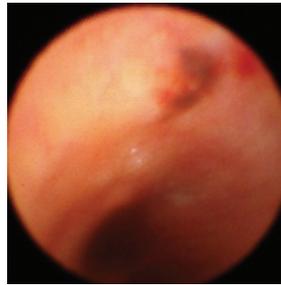


FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

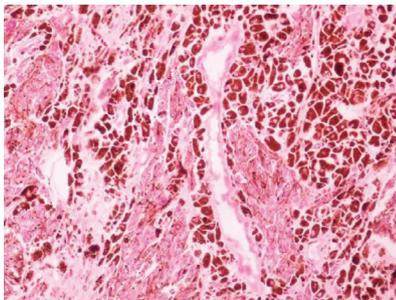


FIGURE 4

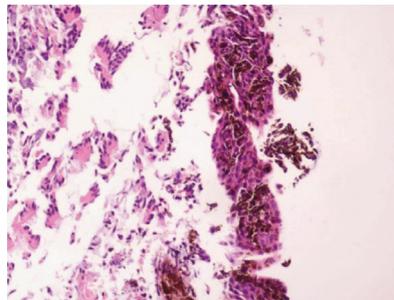


FIGURE 5

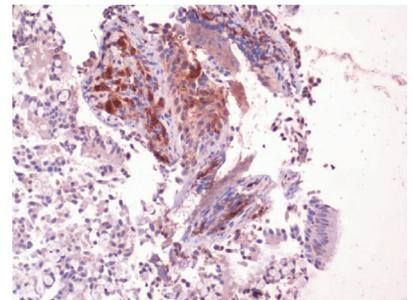


FIGURE 6

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