

IMAGES IN DERMATOLOGY

Differences in Ultrasound Scanners' Detection of Metastasis in Melanoma[☆]



Diferencias en equipos de ecografía para la detección de metástasis de melanoma

P. Giavedoni,* D. Morgado-Carrasco, J. Puig, S. Malveyh

Servicio de Dermatología, Hospital Clínic, Barcelona, Spain

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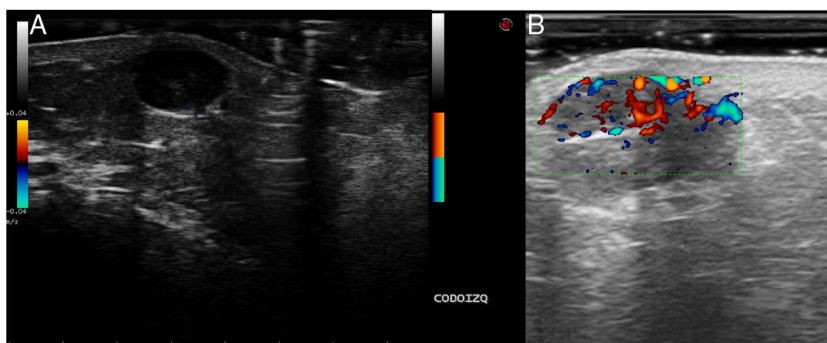


Figure 1 .

A 75-year-old woman diagnosed with a melanoma on the left arm in 2006 (Breslow thickness, 1.1 mm, treated with surgery and removal of lymph nodes) visited our department after 10 years due to a nodule measuring 1 cm on the left elbow, near the melanoma scar. Doppler ultrasound was performed using a MyLab™ 25 Gold device with PRF 740 and 79% gain, and revealed a rounded hypoechoic image with

posterior enhancement and lateral shadows, with no flow in Doppler mode, compatible with a simple cyst. The imaging was repeated with the MyLab™ Class C device with PRF 750 and 80% gain, and revealed a hypoechoic image with abundant Doppler flow in the interior, compatible with melanoma metastasis. The lesion was excised, and melanoma metastasis was confirmed (Fig. 1).

Recent years have seen an exponential increase in the use of Doppler ultrasound in Spain. We believe that it is important to be aware of the potency of the different devices, especially in cases like ours, where the increased Doppler flow was essential for diagnosing a melanoma metastasis.

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* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: pgiavedo@clinic.cat (P. Giavedoni).