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Improving skills in diagnosis of basalioma

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Background & Aim: Basalioma (also known as basal cell carcinoma or BCC) is the most frequent skin cancer worldwide. Exposure to sunlight is the most important risk factor. However, a multiple risk factors are described such as advanced age, light skin phototypes, family history of skin carcinoma and immunosuppression. BCC can also arise in scars, burn sites, ulcers and lesions of chronic inflammation. As consequence of its typical slow and asymptomatic growth it is referred by patients as a wound that does not heal. The purpose of this review is to improve the accuracy of diagnosis of BCC.

Method: A narrative literature review of relevant and recent articles was conducted. To enrich the review we used the iconographic record of observed clinical cases.

Results: There are multiple classifications based on clinical or histological findings. The simplest morphological classification of BCC includes nodular, ulcerative, pigmented, sclerodermiform or fibrosing and superficial subtypes. Although, there is disagreement with regard to the classification by some authors. The nodular form is the most common.

Conclusions: The diagnosis is usually clinical. The knowledge of clinical findings of BCC allows its early detection and referral, which will simplify the treatment by surgical excision. The education of community, regarding risk factors and self-examination, is essential for the prevention and to improve the prognosis, reducing morbidity and health system expenditures. Family medicine has a crucial purpose on education and early diagnosing.