

Becker naevus

M. M. Aarif Syed

ABSTRACT

A 22 years old young male, presented with a large hyperpigmented (brown) patch involving the right upper back, right shoulder and predominantly extensor aspect of right arm with hypertrichosis, which started developing about 3 years ago. A diagnosis of Becker naevus was made. It is an androgen dependent lesion, being more frequent in males and mostly appears at or after puberty. No treatment is effective.

Key words: Becker naevus, hypertrichosis, laser

A 22-year-old young male presented with darkening of the skin of the right upper back, shoulder, and arm [Figure 1a and b]. He was apparently well about 3 years ago, when he first noticed a dark patch on his right shoulder, which gradually increased in dimensions to assume the present size. He also complained of increased hair growth on the dark patches. He was evaluated and a large hyperpigmented (brown) patch involving the right upper back, right shoulder, and predominantly extensor aspect of right arm with hypertrichosis was seen. A diagnosis of Becker naevus was made.

Becker naevus, also known as Becker melanosis, is a benign condition, first described by Becker in 1948 [1]. It is an androgen dependent lesion, being more frequent in males and mostly appears at or after puberty. The upper trunk and the

scapular regions are the common sites. Hypertrichosis may not always be present. Rarely, it may be a part of Becker naevus syndrome. Naevus of Ito is an important differential diagnosis, which can be easily differentiated on histopathological examination. No treatment is effective. A combination of long-pulsed Nd:Yag and alexandrite laser has shown good results [2].

References

1. Becker SW. Concurrent melanosis and hypertrichosis in distribution of naevus unius lateris. *Arch Derm Syphilol* 1949;60(2):155-60.
2. Wulkan AJ, McGraw T, Taylor M. Successful treatment of Becker's naevus with long-pulsed 1064nm Nd:YAG and 755nm alexandrite laser and review of the literature. *J Cosmet Laser Ther* 2017;doi: 10.1080/14764172.2017.1326613. [Epub ahead of print].

Consent

Written informed consent was obtained for the publication of the images.

Competing Interests

The author declares that he has no competing interests.

Funding

Sources of funding: None.

Please cite this paper as: Syed MM. Becker naevus. *Int J Stud Res* 2017;6(2):20.

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.



Figure 1 (a) Hyperpigmented (brown) patch involving the right upper back and right shoulder. (b) Hyperpigmented (brown) patch involving the right shoulder and predominantly extensor aspect of right arm

Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.
E-mail: syedmmaarif@gmail.com

Access this article online

Quick Response Code:



Website:
www.ijsonline.net

DOI:
10.4103/ijsr.Int_J_Stud_Res_10_17