**Congenital cerebriform plaque in a newborn**

Keshavmurthy A Adya, Arun Inamadar

**DESCRIPTION**

A newborn boy was brought to us with a congenital hairless plaque on the right parietal scalp. Examination revealed a yellowish plaque measuring about 2×3 cm with a conspicuous brownish undulating papillomatous surface exhibiting a cerebriform appearance (figure 1A). Rest of the cutaneous and systemic exam was normal. Dermoscopy revealed bright yellow structureless areas with thick curved pink-brown papillomatous structures and absence of terminal hairs (figure 1B). Clinical appearance was consistent with cerebriform nevus sebaceous, which was confirmed by dermoscopy. Cerebriform nevus sebaceous is a rare variant of nevus sebaceous presenting as yellowish-white plaque with a conspicuous cerebriform surface. The classical form presents as a smooth yellowish-white or yellowish-orange hairless patch or slightly raised plaque in the neonatal/infantile period, which grows to assume verrucous/papillomatous surface after puberty. In contrast, the cerebriform variant presents as a raised plaque with surface undulations resembling the surface of the brain in the neonatal stage itself. The reason for such appearance is unclear. When widespread, thorough work-up of the child may be necessary as it may be a part of linear nevus sebaceous syndrome that is associated with various systemic anomalies. Although benign in itself, secondary benign and malignant tumours are known to arise within the lesion, which may necessitate its elective removal.1

The dermoscopic features of nevus sebaceous are fairly well characterised and depend on the stage of the lesion (yellowish or brown globules in clusters on a yellow background in the alopecic stage, and whitish-yellow lobular aspect with greyish papillary appearance in verrucous plaques).2 Hence, dermoscopy allows a non-invasive confirmation of the diagnosis of this rare variant and differentiates from similar presentations such as congenital melanocytic nevus or verrucous epidermal nevus.

**Learning points**

- Cerebriform nevus sebaceous is a rare variant of nevus sebaceous.
- Extensive and multidermatomal lesions may be associated with various internal anomalies.
- Use of dermoscopy in the neonatal stage provides a non-invasive confirmation of the diagnosis of this rare entity and also helps in differentiating from other lesions with similar morphology such as melanocytic nevus or verrucous epidermal nevus.

**Figure 1**

Yellowish plaque with brownish papillomatous surface in a cerebriform pattern on the right parietal area (A). Dermoscopy showing bright-yellow structureless areas with thick curved pink-brown papillomatous structures and absence of terminal hairs (B) (Polarised dermoscopy (DermLite DL3, 3Gen Inc., San Juan Capistrano, CA, USA), X10).

**REFERENCES**
