

1. Politerapica - Terapia della Salute, Seriate (BG)
2. Lega Italiana per la Lotta contro i Tumori Bergamo Onlus
3. Associazione Insieme con il sole dentro - Melamici contro il Melanoma

Objective

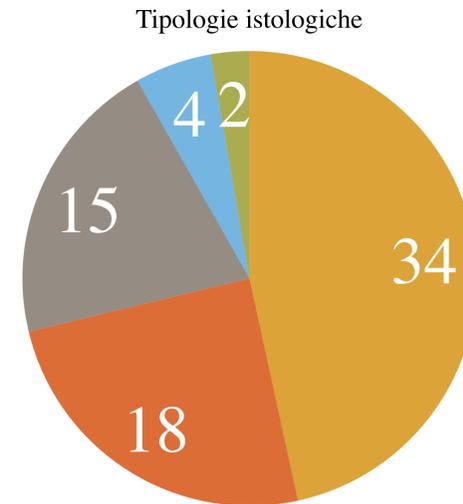
The progressive increase in the average life span and population changing habits, in particular light exposure, both natural and artificial, have led in the last twenty years to a significant increase in the incidence of skin neoplasms of both epithelial and melanocytic origin. Non-melanocytic malignant skin tumors are by far the most frequent tumors in males, with an incidence equal to 120 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in 2017 in Italy and in second place, after breast cancer, in females with an incidence equal to 90 cases out of 100,000 inhabitants a year in Italy. Basal cell carcinomas account for 70-80% of all non-melanocytic malignant skin cancers. Squamous cell carcinomas are epidemiologically less represented but are burdened by higher mortality due to their ability to metastasize, even if rare. We are convinced that such an epidemiological impact requires a prompt response in any region that reduces the impact on hospitals currently overburdened.

The response on the territory must however maintain the canons of scientificity and methodology typical of the University Hospital in order to offer to the patient the most modern guidelines and approaches. In order to fulfill this goal, we have organized an outpatient clinic dedicated to the treatment of oncological skin diseases supported by the LILT section of Bergamo and made up of hospital specialists such as: dermatologist, plastic surgeon, anatomopathologist, specialist nurse and psycho-oncologist at the Politerapica Medicina Vicina Poliambulatorio in Seriate.

The purpose of this work is to revise our cases in our last year, from June 2021 to June 2022, where we added a radiologist in our team able to perform staging exams after cancer removal

Methods and Materials

we evaluated total outpatient visit, skin removals and staging exam performed in our outpatient clinic from June 2021 to June 2022



- patologia benigna (cisti sebacee, cheratosi seborroiche, lipomi, emangiomi)
- nevi
- carcinoma basocellulare
- carcinoma squamocellulare
- melanoma

Results

during our study period we performed 303 dermatology specialist visits and a total of 73 skin lesions removals, 2 of these required reconstruction using local flaps. Analyzing the histological outcomes in the sample population we observed a majority of benign pathology with 34 cases (seborrheic keratitis, hemangiomas), 18 cases of benign nevi, but also 15 cases of basal cell carcinomas, 4 of squamous cell carcinomas and 2 melanomas (undergoing subsequent wider excision and one referred to another hospital for sentinel lymph node biopsy). According to the distribution by age we observe a great increase in younger patients below 40 years of age (36,5%), followed by patients between 40 and 60 years (30%), we observed lower amount of patients in the age group 60-70 (13%), indeed we see an increase in older patients (19,5%). The distribution by location confirms the preference for photo-exposed areas and the consequent need in the multidisciplinary team of a plastic surgeon who minimizes the outcome of the removal and possibly performs local reconstruction. Follow-up exams are offered in our center and we didn't observe any distant metastasis.

Conclusion

comparing our experience with the two previous years we observed an increase in the total number of patients (in one year we equal the two previous years). Interestingly we see that the amount of younger patients is increasing. This report confirms the usefulness of establishing a multidisciplinary team that deals with such a frequent and potentially harmful pathology in the area as melanocytic and non-melanocytic skin cancers. Adding a radiologist allowed us to extend the services of our center by offering the possibility to perform the follow-up at the facility and to follow the patient from diagnosis, to treatment and to the subsequent postoperative check-up.