

Malignant Melanoma Board Review Questions

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Histopathologic criteria defining a melanoma in the vertical invasive growth phase include:

1. Dermal mitotic figures
2. Loss of melanin pigmentation
3. Expansile nest of dermal melanoma cells larger than the largest intraepidermal cluster
4. Regression
5. Clark's level III

May have more than one answer

Answers

1. Dermal mitotic figures
3. Expansile nest of dermal melanoma cells larger than the largest intraepidermal cluster
5. Clark's level III

Differential Diagnosis of Tumors Showing Intraepithelial Spread

Disease	S100	Melan-A	CK	Synaptophysin
Melanoma				
Paget's disease				
Bowen's disease				
Merkel cell carcinoma				

Disease	S100	Melan-A	CK	Synaptophysin
Melanoma	+	+	-	+/-
Paget's disease	-	-	+	-
Bowen's disease	-	-	+	-
Merkel cell carcinoma	+/-	-	+	+

Histopathologic features associated with nevoid melanomas include:

1. Mitotic figures toward the base of the lesion
2. Loss of melanin pigment
3. Absence of maturation
4. HMB-45 negative staining
5. Ki-67 positive staining

May have more than one answer

Answers

- Mitotic figures toward the base of the lesion
- Absence of maturation
- Ki-67 positive staining

In the 2002 AJCC staging for Malignant Melanoma:

1. Liver metastasis alone is a separate M classification
2. Ulceration is a prognostic factor only in Level 2 melanomas
3. Size of the metastatic nodes is an independent prognostic factor
4. Level I melanomas=melanoma in situ

May have more than one answer

Answers

- Level I melanomas=melanoma in situ

Definitions of Satellite Lesions

Lesion	Size	Location
Clinical		
Histopathologic		

Definitions of Satellite Lesions

Lesion	Size	Location
Clinical	Discontinuous focus within 5 cm of primary melanoma	In transit metastases are beyond 5 cm but still regional
Histopathologic	Tumor mets >0.05 mm in diameter	Reticular dermis, panniculus, or vessels beneath primary invasive tumor but separated by normal tissue