Tumors of the Epidermis
(Weedon Chapter 31)

Paul K. Shitabata, M.D.
Dermatopathology Institute
Match the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Characteristic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nevus verrucosus</td>
<td>Long, linear, usually unilateral on extremities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevus unius lateris</td>
<td>Large disfiguring nevi with bilateral distribution on trunk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ichthyosis hystrix</td>
<td>Localized wart-like appearance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Answers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Characteristic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nevus verrucosus</td>
<td>Localized wart-like appearance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevus unius lateris</td>
<td>Long, linear, usually unilateral on extremities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ichthyosis hystrix</td>
<td>Large disfiguring nevi with bilateral distribution on trunk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evidence of neural involvement in cases of prurigo nodularis include all except:

A. Response to capsaicin
B. Increased production of nerve growth factor receptor
C. Increased expression of calcitonin gene-related peptide
D. Herpetiform grouping of lesions
E. Hypertrophy and proliferation of dermal nerve fibers
Answer D

- Herpetiform grouping of lesions is not a clinical finding.
Correct associations with Leser-Trelat sign include all except:

A. Onset always precedes the onset of symptoms of cancer
B. Gastrointestinal tract cancers are the most common underlying cancer
C. Occasional involution of keratoses following treatment of the cancer
D. Histopathology identical to conventional seborrheic keratoses
E. Metastatic disease frequently present
Answer A

- Leser-Trelat sign may precede, follow, or develop concurrently with the onset of symptoms of cancer
Pertinent histopathologic differential considerations for Bowen’s disease include all except:

A. Bowenoid papulosis
B. Paget’s disease
C. Malignant melanoma in situ
D. Erythroplasia of Queyrat
E. Eccrine poroma
Answer E
Factors associated with susceptibility to basal cell carcinomas include all except:

A. Mutations in the PATCHED gene
B. Mutations in Ptc gene
C. Good correlation between tumor density and UV dose
D. Frameshift mutations in BAX gene
E. Association with HLA-DR7 and HLA-DR4
Answer C

- Surprisingly, there is no good correlation between tumor density and UV dose.
Histopathologic clues to a basal cell carcinoma that may be present on deeper sections include all except:

A. Empty dermal spaces
B. Equivocal adnexae
C. Microcalcifications
D. Focal melanocytic atypia
E. Stromal or superficial fibrosis
Focal basal atypia is an indicator that a basal cell carcinoma may be present on deeper sections.
Explanations given to reclassify keratoacanthomas as squamous cell carcinomas include all except:

A. Perineural invasion
B. Initial diagnosis incorrect
C. Initial lesion was combined with a squamous cell carcinoma
D. Keratoacanthoma transformed into squamous cell carcinoma
E. Keratoacanthoma may actually be a variant of a squamous cell carcinoma
Perineural invasion has been reported in keratoacanthomas but does not affect the prognosis or behavior of the lesion.