

## Abstract

- **Dermatomyositis** is well known to be associated with **several types of malignancies**, particularly adenocarcinomas.
- However, the association between **dermatomyositis and headend neck squamous cell carcinoma** remains rare and poorly understood.
- We report a case of squamous cell carcinoma of the **pyriform sinus** discovered in front of a dermatomyositis presentation.



**Figure 1** : physical examination findings :

- Cluster of fixed left lateral cervical lymph nodes
- **Dermatomyositis lesions.**

## Results

- A **66-year-old patient** with a history of dermatomyositis presented with a left latero cervical swelling.
- **Clinical examination** revealed a cluster of enlarged, firm, fixed left laterao cervical **lymph nodes measuring 8 cm in diameter** with multiple generalized cutaneous lesions (Figure 1).
- **Endoscopic exploration** showed an asymmetry of the nasopharynx without tumor evidence and a protruding mass centered on the left piriform sinus. Biopsy of the nasopharynx was inconclusive, while **biopsy of the mass in the piriform sinus** confirmed squamous cell carcinoma. **Imaging studies (CT Scan and MRI)** demonstrated an infiltrating mass centered on the left piriform sinus with extension into the glottis and subglottic regions.
- **Distant extension assessment** revealed metastases to ipsilateral lymph nodes, liver, and bones, indicative of advanced disease.
- The treatment was based on **anti-metastatic chemotherapy** but the evolution was quickly fatal.

## Objective

- **The aim** of our work was to elucidate the **clinical presentation** and diagnostic challenges of a patient diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma of the piriform sinus concomitant with dermatomyositis.

## Methods

- **We report a case** of squamous cell carcinoma of the pyriform sinus discovered in front of a dermatomyositis presentation.

## Conclusion

- Dermatomyositis as a **para-neoplastic syndrome** of head and neck tumors is rare and more often associated with naso-pharyngeal cancer and rarely with pyriform sinus cancer. **Early diagnosis and management** involving a multidisciplinary team are crucial for optimizing patient outcomes in such complex cases.

## Discussion

- **Piriform sinus carcinoma** is a type of hypo-pharyngeal carcinoma with **poor prognosis**.
- Because symptoms are typically minimal or absent in the early stage, piriform sinus carcinoma is often diagnosed at an **advanced stage**.
- Paraneoplastic syndromes including Dermatomyositis may be the **circumstance of diagnosis** of hypo-pharyngeal cancers.
- **A PET CT scan** is a strongly recommended in these situations : paraneoplastic syndromes are often associated with **distant metastasis**.

## Références

Bonnet S, Mercié P, Lacape G, Viillard JF, Faure I, Martel J, Couzi L, Leng B, Pellegrin JL. Macro-CK révélatrice d'un carcinome épidermoïde disséminé du sinus pyriforme chez un patient atteint de dermatomyosite [Macro-CK disclosing disseminated epidermoid carcinoma of the pyriform sinus in a patient with dermatomyositis]. Rev Med Interne. 2001 Mar;22(3):292-6. French. doi: 10.1016/s0248-8663(00)00331-3. PMID: 11270273.