MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA AFTER LIVER TRANSPLANTATION:
A CASE REPORT

Emilio Bajetta¹, Marco Platania¹, Laura Catena¹, Ettore Bichisao², Alessandra Fabbri³, Giuseppe Procopio¹, Sara De Dosso¹, and Roberto Buzzoni¹

¹Unit of Medical Oncology 2, Centro di Riferimento per lo Studio e la Cura del Carcinoide e dei Tumori Neuroendocrini (CeRiCa), Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan; ²Medical Officer, ITMO Group, Milan; ³Unit of Pathology, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy

Background: Merkel cell carcinoma is a rare and aggressive neuroendocrine skin cancer with a very low incidence in the general population. MCC seems to be common in transplant recipients and 52 cases have been reported in the literature.

Methods and results: This report describes a Merkel cell carcinoma which developed in a liver transplant recipient. To our knowledge, this is the second such case reported, as Merkel cell carcinoma most commonly occurs after kidney and heart transplants. The treatment approach is described and the literature on the subject is reviewed.

Conclusion: There is currently no consensus regarding the optimal therapeutic approach to Merkel cell carcinoma. In transplant recipients, such tumors are more common and more aggressive but their treatment does not differ from the treatment of Merkel cell carcinomas in the general population.

Key words: liver transplantation, Merkel cell carcinoma, skin cancer.

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Correspondence to: Prof Emilio Bajetta, Medical Oncology Unit 2, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Via Venezian 1, 20133 Milan, Italy. Tel +39-02-23902500; fax +39-02-23902149; e.mail emilio.bajetta@istitutotumori.mi.it

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