Images – Cutaneous horn of penis

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CASE REPORT

A 63-year-old Caucasian male presented to urology clinic with a slow growing, hard, painless lesion on his penis, for 2 years. He had no discharge or itching, and was circumcised. Clinical examination revealed a 2 cm hard, curved lesion, on the dorsal, mid-shaft of the penis (Figure 1A, B). There was no induration of the base and no palpable inguinal adenopathy. Clinically, this was consistent with a cutaneous horn. He underwent wide local excision, with good cosmesis (Figure 1C).

Pathology (10x magnification) revealed atypical parakeratosis and full-thickness epidermal atypia (Figure 2), consistent with penile intraepithelial neoplasia 3, with negative margins.

Cutaneous horn is a hyperkeratotic lesion, common on exposed areas like the face(1). Penile horns are premalignant, possibly related to human papilloma virus(2). Treatment consists of wide local excision(3). There have been reports of patients being treated with LASER therapy or imiquimod cream - however, it is imperative to get a pathological diagnosis, and hence wide local excision should be the treatment of choice. Family physicians should be made aware of this lesion, and refer patients to Urologists at the earliest, to prevent transformation to invasive squamous cell carcinoma.
REFERENCES


FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1A.

Figure 1B.
Figure 1C.

Figure 2.