

Cutaneous Melanoma in a Slaughtered Pig

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A discoid and pedunculate elevation 14.0x12.5x2.5 cm in size was noted in the right shoulder of 7-month-old brown pig encountered at Jeju slaughter house. Grossly, the mass 7.0x4.0 cm in size was interfaced with skin. The mass was well-demarcated, partially encapsulated, firm, and mixed with mostly black and partly white area on cut surface. Histopathologically, very pleomorphic, however most are nonencapsulated, black pigmented large dermal nodules was extend into the deep dermis. The epidermis showed severe orthokeratotic hyperkeratosis, rete peg down growth, and partial ulceration. The large nodule were composed of endocrine-like clusters with black pigmented melanocytes or melanophages surrounded by delicate fibrous stroma and the streaming bundles of nonpigmented spindle cells. And there was clear demarcation between the expansive tumor and the normal dermis. Arrangement of uniform round cells with large amount of intracytoplasmic melanin was presented in the most of clusters. Mitotic figures and junctional activity were seldom observed. Several dark pigmented tumor emboli were occupied in small blood vessels. Based on the gross and histopathologic findings, this case was diagnosed as cutaneous melanoma in pig. The pig have a high incidence of melanomas, which may often be found in slaughtered animals. In our knowledge, this is the first case of swine cutaneous melanoma in Korea.

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