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Granular cell tumor clinical spectrum of the benign and malignant entity

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Granular cell tumors are uncommon lesions, although the head and neck region accounts for approximately 50% of all lesions. The basic cell of origin is now thought to be neural, although past studies indicated an origin from striated muscle or an origin from histiocytes, fibroblasts or pericytes. The tumor generally occurs in middle or older aged adults. Lesions often demonstrate pallor or a yellowish discoloration and typically have a smooth surface. As most of the granular cell tumors are benign, surgical excision of the lesion is the treatment of choice. We report four cases of granular cell tumors: Case-1: Mimicking as metastatic skin nodule in umbilical region diagnosed at B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Case-2: Occurring in a 3 year old child, Case-3: Granular cell tumor co-existing with squamous cell carcinoma in respiratory tract and Case-4: Granular cell myoblastoma occurring in a burn case, studied at Civil Hospital Karachi. The histopathologic findings in all these cases showed features of granular cell tumors confirming the diagnosis. Cases are reported for its rarity and uncommon presentation.

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