

Lish nodules revealing a neurofibromatosis type 1: about a case

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Abstract:

Lisch nodules are melanocytic hamartomas typically seen neurofibromatosis type 1. Herein, we present a case of bilateral Lisch nodules leading to discovery of associated features of Von Recklinghausen disease.

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I. Case Report:

A 14-year-old girl presented with complaints of progressive blurred vision OU over a one year period. Cycloplegic refraction was -1.00 D OD and -1.25 D OS with best corrected visual acuity of 6/6 OU. Ocular motility was full OU but we noted a right relative afferent pupillary defect. Slit-lamp examination of the anterior segment of each eye revealed the presence of multiple light-brown elevations above iris surface with well-defined borders consistent with Lish nodules (Figure 1 a). Fundusoscopic examination was unremarkable especially there was no retinal hamartoma or papillary edema. Systemic examination showed multiple café-au-lait spots (Figure 1 b). There was no evidence of plexiform neurofibromas. Magnetic resonance imaging of the orbit was positive for an enlarged optic nerve more prominently at the right eye characterizing glioma of the optic nerve with thin low-signal at the periphery representing the dura at T2 weighted images (Figure 1 c). The patient continues to undergo annual eye examinations and follow-up with a multidisciplinary neurofibromatosis team.

Lisch nodules are melanocytic hamartomas representing a part of the diagnostic criteria for neurofibromatosis type 1[1-2]. They number may increase in number with age with no potential ocular complications [3]. They should be differentiated from iris nevi which are flat or minimally elevated with blurred margins [4].

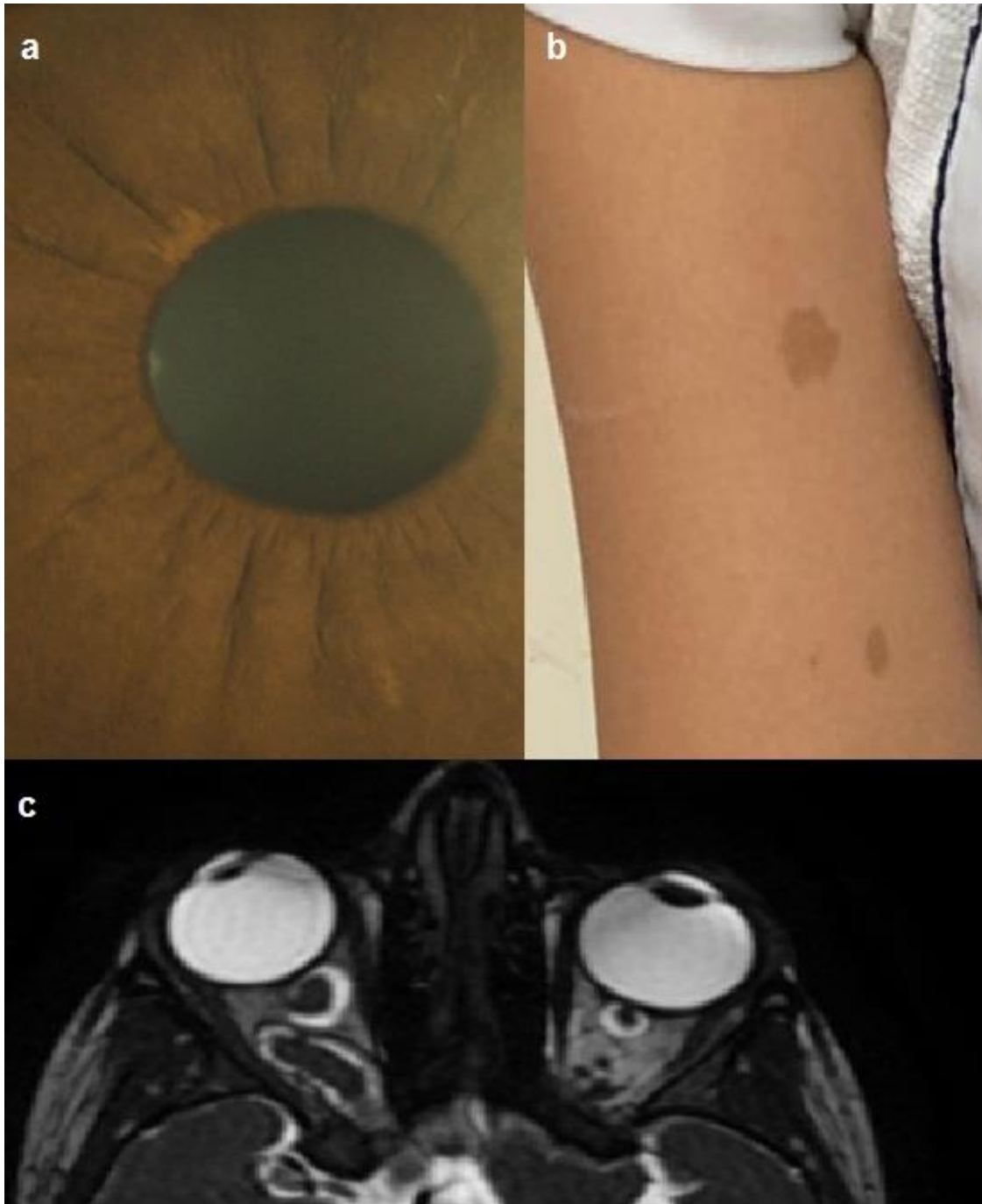


Figure 1: slit-lamp photogrzphy with diffuse illumination showing a juxta-pupillary lisch nodule (a) external photography with two café-au-lait spots on the right arm (b) a T2 weighted image showing bilateral glioma of the optic nerve (c)

Competing interests:

The authors declare no competing interest.

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