A Dermatoscopic Decision Algorithm for Pigmented Skin Malignancy
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Flowchart for the CHAOS & CLUES Algorithm

CHAOSS

Is there CHAOS?

CHAOSS is defined as asymmetry of structure or colour. Irregularity of shape does not matter. Perfect symmetry is not expected in nature and is not required. Look at the overall pattern. With experience this can be assessed at scanning speed. There is no need to decide whether the lesion is melanocytic. If CHAOS is not present move to the next lesion. If CHAOS is present STOP and EXAMINE for one of the 0 CLUES to malignancy.

CHAOSS

Scan these four lesions for the presence of CHAOS (present in B). Note that D is symmetrical (by pattern and colour). Irregularity of shape does not matter.

CLUES

Is a CLUE to malignancy present?

1. Grey or Blue Structures
2. Eccentric Structureless Area
3. Thick Lines Reticular or Branched
4. Black Dots or Clods, Peripheral
5. Lines Radial or Pseudopods, Segmental
6. White Lines
7. Polymorphous Vessels
8. Lines Parallel, Ridges (Palms or Soles) or Chaotic (Nails)
9. Polypogones

Specific Diagnosis of Pigmented Skin Malignancies

Exclusion of Seborrhoeic Keratoses by Pattern Analysis

Assessment of 483 consecutive pigmented lesions – Dermatoscopic and Clinical diagnostic accuracy
Cliff Rosendahl, Alan Cameron, Philipp Tschantl, Harald Kittler

Evaluation of CHAOS & CLUES

Affiliations

References

Any method can miss malignancies. We recommend that this poster be studied in conjunction with references (1-6). Electronic format (PDF) requests for this poster: clifrosendahl@biopond.com