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In Vivo Examination of Lentigo Maligna, In Situ Malignant Melanoma, Lentigo Maligna Type by Near-Infrared Confocal Microscopy: Comparison of Confocal Images with Histologic Sections

Tannous Z, Mihm M, Flotte T, González S; J Am Acad Dermatol. Feb 2002; 46(2):260-63.

ABSTRACT

In vivo confocal microscopy can noninvasively image thin en face sections within living intact human tissue with high resolution and contrast. This evolving technique may provide clinicians with tools to help detect lentigo maligna lesion progression in vivo and may be important in defining tumor margins, thus providing a more definitive surgical eradication of lentigo maligna and malignant melanoma in situ, lentigo maligna type. We present a case of malignant melanoma in situ, lentigo maligna type, and we describe the images seen with confocal microscopy in correlation with routine histopathology.