

Blue Man Syndrome Explanation

Answer to MCQ:

Metastatic melanoma presenting as diffuse melanosis cutis. Biopsy of a bladder nodule was consistent with BRAF+ metastatic melanoma. He was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma of unknown primary presenting as diffuse melanosis cutis with melanuria. He passed away prior to initiation of vemurafenib chemotherapy, four months from development of melanosis.

Teaching points:

Diffuse melanosis cutis is a rare presentation of metastatic melanoma and the mean survival is 4 months from presentation.¹ The skin discoloration in this condition is thought to result from melanin precursors released from metastatic melanoma that are then deposited in the dermis. It is most pronounced in sun-exposed areas.¹

References

1. Sebaratnam, "Diffuse melanosis cutis: A systematic review of the literature" J Am Acad Dermatol 2012.