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SCHEDA ABSTRACT sulle attività di ricerca ISDE Italia

Melanoma cancer incidence and residential proximity to agricultural pesticide use in Trentino, Italy. Preliminary report case series

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Introduction
The last cancer registry of the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano in Northern Italy, reveals an increase of the incidence of melanoma.
We have assumed a possible correlation between increased incidence of melanoma and passive exposure to pesticides and sometimes combined with other exposure xenobiotic substances in Trentino, the second region in Italy that utilizes very large quantities of pesticides.
38/78 histological diagnoses confirmed stage 0-IA-IB-IIB according to the 7th and 8th Edition staging melanoma respectively for patients examined in the years 2016-17 and 2018; 40 patients had a differential histological diagnosis, which included dysplastic nevi with various degrees of cytological atypia, superficial atypical Spitz tumors, a blue nevus, pigmented seborrheic keratoses and others.
Results
An increase in new cases of skin melanoma was observed, with an incidence of 1.6 patients and 1.5 per month respectively in 2017 and 2018, in subjects who live near (within 1 km) or come into contact with agriculture use of pesticides and in one or more xenobiotic substances from plastic industry, biomass plants, sawmills, undiversified urban dump refuses, engineering industry.
It is interesting to note that, whilst working in Sicily, the dermatologist had observed a minor number of new cases of melanoma per month, even though the region is more exposed to sun light than is Trentino, but where biological cultivation is extensive.
Conclusions
We ipotize that the increased number of melanomas in Trentino could be due to related environmental toxic factors.