Dear Editor, Fluorescence-advanced videodermatoscopy (FAV) is a new noninvasive method for in vivo skin examination.1 In a series of six flat melanocytic pigmented lesions (three melanomas and three melanocytic naevi), FAV allowed correct characterization between benign and malignant lesions, showing that certain types of cell clusters were more frequently represented in different kinds of lesions. In a benign lesion (a, b) the FAV image displays the presence of hyperpigmented cells arranged in a flat layer with their own regular shapes as usually reckoned in the honeycomb pattern of the stratum spinosum (c). Adjusting the focus depth, we could visualize up to the dermoepidermal junction. We observed dermal papillae with capillary loops in the middle, surrounded by basal-layer cells (d). In melanoma (e, f) FAV shows pleomorphic cells with relevant atypia in number, shape and dimension with no structural order (g). For this reason we could not distinguish the stratum spinosum from the stratum basale (h). Despite the small number of cases, these observations suggest that FAV may represent a new noninvasive investigative method to study melanocytic pigmented lesions at cellular resolution.

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Reference


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