Angiosarcoma of the skin

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F 58, right retroauricular scalp

Ulcerated, purple-blue mass behind the right ear
Dermal neoplasm composed of infiltrating irregular, vascular or sinusoidal anastomosing channels
Vessels are lined by a disorganized proliferation of polyhedral atypical endothelial cells with scant amphophilic cytoplasm, and dark blue nuclei. Micropapillae of the neoplastic cells with a hobnail appearance are seen projecting into the lumen of the neoplastic vessels.
CD 34: Positive
Factor VIII: Positive
Ki 67: High proliferative activity
Diagnosis: Angiosarcoma

- Cutaneous angiosarcoma primarily affects elderly patients and is commonly located on the head and neck, especially the scalp.

Microscopically, the classic angiosarcoma is composed of a disorganized vascular or sinusoidal anastomosing network with infiltration into the dermis; the neoplastic slit-like vessels dissect the dermal collagen. The tumor cells are polyhedral, atypical endothelial cells with a high nucleus to cytoplasm ratio and scant amphophilic cytoplasm. Angiosarcoma may also have other histological variants that include the spindle type, solid epithelioid type, hemangioma-like type, granular cell variant, and pleomorphic type.
The prognosis for patients with angiosarcomas of the scalp is poor because these tumors recur and metastasize by lymphatic or hematogenous routes. In our case, the patient died soon after diagnosis with metastasis.

Ref:
Angiosarcoma of the scalp mimicking a sebaceous cyst
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