

1) What is the rate of metastasis for the BCCs?

Metastasis for the BCCs is extremely rare and reported from 0.0028% to 0.55%^{1,2}

1. Alonso V, Revert A, Monteagudo C et al. Basal cell carcinoma with distant multiple metastases to the vertebral column J Euro Acad Dermatol 2006; 20:735-37.
 2. Robinson JK, Dahiya M. basal cell carcinoma with pulmonary and lymphnode metastasis causing death. Arch Dermatol 2003; 139:643-
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2) What is giant BCC?

BCCs with diameter greater than 5 cm are considered as giant BCCs and have considerable morbidity and ².

1. Sahl WJ. Basal cell carcinoma: Influence of tumour size on mortality and morbidity. Int J Dermatol 1995;34: 319–321.
 2. Randle HW. Basal cell carcinoma: identification and treatment of the high-risk patient. Dermatol Surg 1996;22:255–261.
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3) Is metastatic BCC more common in the males?

Yes, it is twice as common in males as females with the vast majority of cases reported in Caucasians and few reports in African .

4) What is the median age of onset of primary tumour in metastatic BCC?

The median age of onset for the primary tumor is 45 years, and the median interval between appearance of the primary tumor and metastasis is 9 .

5) What is the mortality rate of metastatic BCC?

There is a high mortality rate of 50% within 6 months once metastasis .

1. Berlin JM, Warner MR, Bailin PL. Metastatic Basal Cell Carcinoma Presenting as Unilateral Axillary Lymphadenopathy: Report of a Case and Review of the Literature. Dermatol Surg 2002;28:1082–1084
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6) Which are the common sites of the primary tumour in metastatic BCC?

Scalp, and BCCs have higher incidence of metastases and approximately 85% of metastatic BCC originate from the head and .

1. Snow SN, Sahl W, Lo JS *et al.* Metastatic basal cell carcinoma: report of five cases. *Cancer* 1994; 73: 328–335.
 2. Nahass GT, Blauvelt A, Leonardi CL, Penneys NS. Basal cell carcinoma of the scrotum: report of three cases and review of the literature. *J Am Acad Dermatol* 1992;26:574–8.
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7) What are the risk factors for metastasis for the BCC?

Patients with tumours greater than 3 cm in diameter have 1-2% risk of metastasis. In giant BCCs it increases to up to 20-25% in lesions greater than 5 cm and up to 50% in lesions greater than 10 cm in . Previous history of radiotherapy and recurrent tumours refractory to treatment, primary tumours refractory to treatment and the depth of are also risk factors for metastatic BCC.

1. Crowson A N. Basal cell carcinoma: biology, morphology and clinical implications. *Mod Path* (2006) 19, S127–S147.
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