

Title: The effect of socio-economic status on severity of periocular basal cell carcinoma at presentation

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ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVE:

To evaluate the influence of socio-economic factors on size of periocular basal cell carcinoma (BCC) at presentation.

METHODS:

All periocular basal cell carcinoma (BCC) cases receiving treatment from the oculoplastics team in South Glasgow Hospitals NHS Trust, Glasgow between 1999 and 2009 were identified retrospectively. Information collected included demographic details of patients, side and site of lesions, type of lesions and size of lesions. The size of lesion is defined as small for any dimension not exceeding 5mm, medium for dimensions between 6mm-10mm and large for dimensions exceeding 11mm. Home address was used to determine the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) rank. The demographics, size of lesion and SIMD rank were investigated using the general linear regression modelling.

RESULTS:

Of the 67 cases, 24 were men and 43 were women. The mean age is 71.5 years old. There were a total of 67 cases being identified, of which 38 presented with small size lesions, 24 with medium size lesions and 5 with large size lesions. SIMD is related to the presenting incidence of BCC, with the lower ranks presenting more frequently. The significant difference exists between the small and medium categories. Note that there are only 5 in the large category which may account for the lack of significance statistically.

CONCLUSION:

Socio-economic deprivation is associated with larger and more frequent presentation of periocular BCC.