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ANGIOLYMPHOID HYPERPLASIA WITH EOSINOPHILIA (ALHE) ON SCALP - A RARE ENTITY

Dermatology

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ABSTRACT

Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia (ALHE) or epitheloid hemangioma is an uncommon vascular disorder, first described by Wells and Whimster in 1969. Although pathogenesis of ALHE is not clearly understood yet, local trauma, allergic reactions or underlying vascular malformations are suggested as the possible etiological factors. It occurs more common in Asians, and may involute spontaneously. It occurs primarily in the head and neck area followed by trunk, limbs and oral mucosa. Peripheral eosinophilia is seen in nearly 20% of patients. We report an unusual presentation of ALHE as clustered nodules over scalp

KEYWORDS

Case Report

A 50 years-old female presented with multiple red bumps on the scalp of 2-years duration. The lesions were increasing in size, and number, and were itchy, and occasionally bled on scratching. Skin examination revealed multiple(5-6), skin colored to dull red, dome shaped nodules with crusted surface on the posteriolateral aspect of right side of scalp. The lesions were discrete, ranging in size from 0.5-2cm in diameter, firm, and non-tender. On Skin biopsy , there were vascular channels lined by plump endothelial cells and are surrounded by lymphocytes with scattered eosinophils.Patient was started on intralesional corticosteroids 2 ml of triamcinolone acetonide (20 mg/ml) monthly.

DISCUSSION

ALHE is a benign slowly growing tumor characterized by intense vascular proliferation. Young and middle-aged women between 20-40 years of age are more commonly affected. ALHE is characterized by solitary or multiple smooth surfaced erythematous or papulonodular lesions mainly located on the head and neck. The lesions are usually asymptomatic but can be pruritic or painful.The treatment of choice is surgical excision, but we preferred intralesional corticosteroid injections in ourpatient because of the multiple lesions. Moreover it is less invasive and gives better cosmetic outcome.

CONCLUSION

The index case had multiple lesions involving scalp clinically resembling cylindromas. So ALHE should be considered in the differential diagnosis of multiple cylindromas of the scalp.

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank patient who agreed to have his case reported

Declaration of patient consent

We certify that we have obtained patient consent. Patient have given consent for images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patient understands that their name and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity,but anonymity can not be guaranteed.

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Conflicts of interest

Nil

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