



DISSEMINATED LUPUS VULGARIS

Dermatology

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ABSTRACT

A case of Lupus Vulgaris in a 9 year old male with dissemination on the whole body, including face, trunk, legs and arms Reported; the primary lesion being on right gluteal area; and dissemination due to some vaccine is reported. Only 2 cases of lupus vulgaris with dissemination have been reported till 2024 but none from India or Asia.

KEYWORDS

A Case Report

Definition: Lupus Vulgaris is a chronic progressive, bacillary cutaneous tuberculosis. In males, tuberculosis verruca cutis (TBVC) and ulcerative tuberculosis are more common, and in females, tuberculosis verruca cutis are more common all forms are common in developing countries

History: Though seen in 1979 and at one of the best institutes of the country, this case was not reported as the photograph was misplaced and there were no mobiles and cameras not commonly carried by doctors. The patient belongs to Himachal Pradesh. A 9 year old boy having bilaterally symmetrical crusted lesions looking slightly pale due to crusts on the face, neck, trunk, thigh and a few on lower legs. Though it looks to be a spot case of Lupus Vulgaris disseminatum and to look for the primary, a lesion of crusted three inch into two inch lesions was seen on the right gluteal region and dye was almost cast. Since the patient was from a different state, he did not come for few months as initially he was reluctant to get a biopsy done. 6 months after, on second visit he got blood parameters all normal and skin biopsy from periphery of primary lesions and disseminated lesion.

Histopathological examination of a biopsy from the primary site showed lymphocytic and histiocytic infiltration and giant cells, granulomas more conspicuous on periphery of lesions and few microorganisms seen. While in secondary (disseminated lesions) the histopathology was also same, but very very rare mycobacterium was seen in the present case some vaccine was the cause of dissemination, but patient did not have any record, PCR test was not available at that time which was 45 years ago. Lupus Vulgaris is cutaneous tuberculosis in relatively high or moderate immunity but previously had encountered tubercle bacilli. Though through haematogenous and lymphogenous, but more commonly it is due to focus of tubercular infection e.g. injury, thorn pricking etc. The papules spread peripherally and deeper down causing tissue destruction and it does not heal of its own, shows apple-jelly nodules on diascopy. Though mucous membranes like oral, nasal, and conjunctiva may be involved, but not so in our case. Mycobacterium tuberculosis cannot be cultured especially from chronic lesions as immunity is usually moderate or high. Diagnosis usually made with clinical-histopathological correlation 1,2. The lesions healed with antitubercular therapy in about 9 months

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