AUTOIMMUNE BULLOUS DISEASES

COEXISTENCE OF BULLOUS PEMPHIGOID AND PEMPHIGUS VULGARIS

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Background: Bullous pemphigoid (BP) and pemphigus vulgaris (PV) are rare autoimmune blistering diseases characterized by autoantibodies against targets within the basement membrane zone (BMZ) and intracellular space of the epidermis, respectively. These two diseases rarely occur together in a same patient.

Observation: A 64-year-old man presented with 2-year history of multiple bullae on his entire body. The lesions started to occur on his legs, and gradually spread to entire body including oral mucosa. Histopathological examination revealed subepidermal bulla with inflammatory cells, especially many eosinophils in the upper dermis. Direct immunofluoresence test revealed depositions of C3 and IgG along the BMZ, but deposition of IgG along the intracellular space of epidermis was also observed. Immunoblotting assay revealed 130-kDa, 180-kDa, and 230-kDa bands corresponding to desmoglein 3, BP180, and BP230 respectively. The results of Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) were positive for both BP180 and BP230. With these features, we made a diagnosis of coexistence of BP and PV.

Key message: Herein, we report a rare case of coexistence of BP and PV. To our knowledge, this is the first report in Korean literature.