



AUTOIMMUNE BULLOUS DISEASES

## VEGETATIVE SCALP FLARE OF PEMPHIGUS VULGARIS RELATED TO HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS TYPE 1

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Background: Pemphigus Vulgaris (PV) is a life-threatening autoimmune disease that presents with blistering and erosions of the skin and/or mucosa. Although some causative factors have been hypothesized to trigger or exacerbate the disorder but most of its pathophysiology remains unknown.

Observation: A farmer in his 40s was under care in the dermatology outpatient department with complaints of recurrent painful oral erosions and skin ulcers for the past several years. The patient had no similar family history. The examination findings were at his first evaluation erosive skin lesions with pustules and crusted ulcers, discrete on the body and mouth erosions. Pathologic examination confirmed intraepidermal bullae with acantholysis in the epidermis. Direct immunofluorescence revealed intercellular deposition of IgG in the epidermis. The patient was under treatment with the diagnosis of Pemphigus Vulgaris. Gradually he developed the exudative scalp plaques with pustules and hair follicles within them which it was resistant to topical and systemic therapy. Further biopsies and polymerase chain reaction was positive for Herpes Simplex virus type 1 superinfected the lesions.

Key message: There is a very rare vegetative manifestation of PV which demonstrates HSV-1 as an exacerbating factor in clinical flares.

