



DERMATOPATHOLOGY

MULTIPLE CLUSTERED PAPULES ON THE LOWER LIMBS: THINK ABOUT MULTIPLE ERUPTIVE DERMATOFIBROMA

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Background: Multiple eruptive dermatofibromas (MEDF) is a rare entity characterized by the development of multiple asymptomatic dermatofibromas clustered in one anatomical area mainly on the lower limbs. The abrupt onset of the lesions in a short period of time is a clue for the diagnosis of MEDF.

Observation: A 54-year-old healthy man without a significant past medical history presented with multiple papules on the legs. He reported that these papules appeared after an insect bite. The lesions developed rapidly during the previous 2 months. Cutaneous examination revealed multiple firm violaceous dome-shaped papules more than 30 that were 5-10 mm in diameter on the legs with a cluster on his right thigh. The rest of his physical examination was normal. Complete blood count cell, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, thyroid stimulating hormone were normal. Antihuman immunodeficiency virus antibody, antinuclear antibody and double-stranded DNA antibody were all negative. A skin biopsy of a violaceous papule was performed revealing a dermal tumor made of interlacing fascicles of spindle cells dissociating the collagen. The epidermis overlying the dermal tumor was acanthotic. The dermal tumor cells were negative for CD34 by immunohistochemical staining. Tumor cells were also consistently negative for S-100, pancytokeratin and Smooth Muscle Actin. Hence, correlation of clinical and histopathological findings allowed us to assess the diagnosis of multiple eruptive dermatofibromas.

Key message: In summary, multiple eruptive dermatofibroma is an uncommon skin condition which could be easily misdiagnosed with the other papular dermatoses. Histology is the key for a correct diagnosis as well as immunohistochemistry. Hence, clinicopathologic correlation is essential for a correct diagnosis.

