

DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

DERMOSCOPY OF LYMPHANGIOMA CIRCUMSCRIPTUM IN A 30 YEAR OLD FILIPINA

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Background: Lymphangioma Circumscriptum is the most common type of congenital lymphatic malformations. It is composed of ill-defined aggregates of relatively small, abnormal lymphatic channel. Usual locations involve the proximal limb and chest, but can occur anywhere else in the skin and oral cavity. Intermittent swelling, hemorrhage and leakage of lymph from superficial vessels may be present. Early evaluation of this malformation is crucial since infection leading to septicemia is a common complication.

Information: A 30-year old female presented with an eight-year history of multiple skin colored vesicles on the abdomen. She described the lesions as asymptomatic but with occasional episodes of bleeding. Dermoscopy revealed multiple well-circumscribed, tan to white round lacunae surrounded by pale septa, highly suggestive of a vascular lesion. Histopathology revealed epidermal atrophy and dermal ectatic vessels lined by a single layer of endothelial cells, and retention of proteinaceous materials consistent with a diagnosis of cutaneous Lymphangioma Circumscriptum.

Key Message: Lymphangioma circumscriptum is a vascular malformation primarily involving the lymphatic vessels in the dermis. It presents as numerous, grouped, small vesicle-like lesions in a plaque. Depending on the blood vessel involvement, lacunae can have color variations. The skin can also be normal in color or may have a bluish discoloration secondary to intracystic bleeding. Recent studies have mentioned the "hypopyon-like feature" in which the cellular components settles at the bottom and serum at the upper part, resulting in a dark to light color transition in some lacunae. This case adds to the growing body of literature that highlights dermoscopy as a cost-effective and convenient diagnostic procedure that allows clinicians to easily further evaluate lymphatic malformations.

Keywords: dermoscopy, cutaneous lymphangioma circumscriptum





