DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

XANTHOGRANULOMAS AND XANTHOMAS : 23 LESIONS EVALUATED BY REFLECTANCE CONFOCAL MICROSCOPY

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Background: Xanthogranulomas and xanthomas appear as solitary or multiple, yellowish, red-brown or flesh colored papules or nodules whose their clinical and dermoscopic appearance could be challenging. Up to date only isolated cases of xanthogranulomas and xanthomas evaluated with in vivo reflectance confocal microscopy (RCM) are documented. We report the largest series of xanthogranulomas and xanthomas examined with this new non-invasive imaging technique.

Observation: We evaluated 23 lesions belonging to 5 patients with dermoscopy examination (DE) and RCM. At least one lesion was excised per patient to obtain histological examination. Xanthomas were diagnosed in 2 patients (40 yo and 9 yo). The first had numerous yellow to orange lesions and DE revealed homogeneous yellowish background and teleangectasia. The second had one erythematous lesion with homogeneous pink background and crown dilated vessels under DE. Xanthogranulomas were diagnosed in 3 patients (20 yo, 69 yo and 23-months-old). All of them had yellow to orange lesions that showed under DE homogeneous yellowish background with rare glomerular vessels (especially at the periphery). One patient also had few brownish lesions holding a pigment network under DE. RCM of 23 lesions revealed no epidermal abnormality and a dense infiltrate of hyper-reflective, large, sometimes multi-nucleated cells in the papillary dermis.

Key message: The most common dermoscopic features of xanthomas and xanthogranulomas are represented by homogeneous yellowish hue and telangiectasias and are usually enough to confirm the clinical suspicion. However, in some cases, clinical and dermoscopic findings could be confusing. RCM allows to characterize dermal xanthomatous cells, that appear as roundish, multi-nucleated hyper-reflective cells that were less bright and larger than melanocytes. These cells corresponded to multinucleated giant cells (Touton giant cells) and lipid-rich macrophages at histopathology. RCM may be a promising diagnostic tool for tumors containing foamy cells, rich in lipids, spontaneously hyper-

reflective under RCM.