



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

BACILLARY ANGIOMATOSIS: A CASE SERIES AT PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL IN ARGENTINA.

Andrea Bettina Cervini⁽¹⁾ - María José Pertuz Suárez⁽¹⁾ - María Candela Viada Pelaez⁽¹⁾ - María Celeste Di Matteo⁽¹⁾ - Paola Cecilia Stefano⁽¹⁾ - Marcela Sandra Bocian⁽¹⁾ - Mariana Alvarez⁽²⁾ - Sandra Gomez⁽³⁾ - Esteban Maronna⁽⁴⁾ - Sergio Giamperetti⁽⁵⁾

Hospital Nacional De Pediatría "prof. Dr. Juan P. Garrahan", Departments Of Dermatology, Ciudad Autónoma De Buenos Aires, Argentina⁽¹⁾ - Hospital Nacional De Pediatría "prof. Dr. Juan P. Garrahan", Departments Of Pathology, Ciudad Autónoma De Buenos Aires, Argentina⁽²⁾ - Hospital Nacional De Pediatría "prof. Dr. Juan P. Garrahan", Departments Of Infectology, Ciudad Autónoma De Buenos Aires, Argentina⁽³⁾ - Hospital De Infecciosas "dr. F. J. Muñiz", Department Of Pathology, Ciudad Autónoma De Buenos Aires, Argentina⁽⁴⁾ - Hospital De Infecciosas "dr. F. J. Muñiz", Department Of Zoonosis, Ciudad Autónoma De Buenos Aires, Argentina⁽⁵⁾

Background: Bacillary angiomatosis (BA) is an unusual infectious disease, not contagious among humans, caused by two species of Gram-negative bacilli, *Bartonella henselae* and *Bartonella quintana*. In the 90% of the cases, the patients are immunosuppressed. The way of infection is cutaneous, through a solution of continuity, by bite, scratch of cat, traumatism with plants or surgical procedures. Its pathogenesis is related to an anomalous vascular proliferation, which mainly affects skin and lymph nodes. The skin lesions are usually variable, purpuric or red papules and nodules represent the most characteristic lesions. It can compromise other organs such as liver, spleen, bone and bone marrow. The diagnosis is based on the histopathology of the lesions, cultures and PCR. Treatment of BA depends on the extent of clinical involvement and the immune state of the patient, being macrolides the first-line antibiotic.

Observation: We present 3 children, all of them immunocompetent, with erythematous-purple papules and/or nodules localized in eyelids, chin and scrotum. A diagnosis of BA was made based on skin biopsy histopathology, which revealed bacilli on Warthin Starry stain and a positive serology and PCR for *Bartonella* ssp. All of them had a favorable evolution, with complete response to the antibiotics treatment.

Key message: The aim of this report is to describe the cutaneous manifestations of this disease, emphasizing the importance of suspecting unusual infections regardless of the immune status of patients.

Key words: Bacillary angiomatosis; *Bartonella*, children.

