



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

CO-OCCURRENCE OF ERYTHEMA NODOSUM AND PAPULONECROTIC TUBERCULID – A RARE PRESENTATION

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Background: Tuberculids are cutaneous manifestations of hypersensitivity to mycobacterial antigen in which no organisms are present in the lesions. We describe a patient with co-occurrence of erythema nodosum (EN) and papulonecrotic tuberculid (PNT).

Case report: 27 years old female presented with multiple elevated painful lesions over the B/L lower legs of 1 month duration. She also developed multiple red coloured lesions over the B/L upper limbs and buttocks since 10-15 days associated with mild itching. She had no history of tuberculosis and known contact with the diseases. On cutaneous examination, multiple bilaterally symmetrical, erythematous, tender and warm subcutaneous nodules up to 5 cm in size present over the shins. In addition to the nodules, there were multiple erythematous papules with central necrosis and adherent scales at the periphery. Rest of general and systemic examination were within the normal limits. Mantoux test was strongly positive with induration of 16*10 mm. Routine hemogram was normal except markedly raised ESR (98mm/hr). ELISA for HIV and VDRL were negative. Chest X-ray and ultrasonography of abdomen and pelvis were normal. Histopathology examination from nodule and papule were suggestive of EN and PNT respectively. AFB staining of both specimens failed to demonstrate any bacilli. The patient was started on DOTS therapy as per WHO guidelines.

Key message: Co-occurrence of two tuberculids especially PNT and EN is rare with only three cases reported till date. Though no organisms can be isolated, eruptions resolve with AKT.

