



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

## LEPRA BONITA- FAR FROM "PRETTY"

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**BACKGROUND:** Lucio phenomenon also called lepra manchada or lepra bonita (bonita= pretty, Spanish) is a rare reactional state of leprosy, common in Mexico. Presents as angular, jagged purpuric lesions evolving into massive ulcerations spreading in an ascending fashion over extremities healing with atrophic scarring.

**OBSERVATION:** A 30 year old male presented to our OPD with multiple ulcerations over his legs since 4 days. He also gave history of gradually progressive loss of sensation over his arms and legs since 4 years. There was no history of motor weakness. History of fever was present since 2 days with joint pains. On examination, he had diffuse xerosis throughout his body, facial skin and both ears appeared infiltrated, there was ciliary and superciliary madarosis, glove and stocking anaesthesia, and bilateral ulnar and lateral popliteal nerves were palpable, tender. Multiple crusted erosions and few purpuric lesions and flaccid bullae were noted over the feet and legs. Biopsy revealed atrophic epidermis. Dermis showed plenty of foamy macrophages, with fibrinoid vasculitis with perivascular neutrophilic and lymphocytic infiltrate. Fites stain was 4+ positive for AFB. A diagnosis of Lepromatous leprosy with Lucio reaction was made. Patient was started on MB-MDT, monthly Methylprednisolone pulse, Pentoxifylline 400 mg Thrice daily and Hydroxychloroquine 200 mg twice daily. Patient is currently under follow-up.

**KEY MESSAGE:** Lucio leprosy, a rare entity, is often unmasked by a specific severe reactional state, Lucio phenomenon. We report this case as it is very rare presentation of leprosy, more so in the Indian context.

