



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

## LUCIO PHENOMENON. CASE REPORT

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The Lucio Phenomenon or Necrotizing Vasculitis is an infrequent type 2 leprosy reaction, initially described in Mexico by Lucio and Alvarado, named by Latapí and Zamora in 1948. This condition affects patient that have not received treatment or have taken it inadequately. It is mediated by autoimmune complexes produced when the *Mycobacterium leprae* is destroyed releasing antigenic proteins. We discuss the case of a 46 year old male, phototype III presenting partial loss of eyebrows, thickening of the frontal, nasolabial folds, earlobes and maxillary regions and a discrete flattening of the nasal septum showing the typical leonine facies. In the upper and lower extremities multiple irregular painful ulcers from 2-7 cms in diameter over an erythematous and indurated skin. The patient refers that the clinics started 2 years ago. There's a decreased tactile, thermal and pain sensitivity in the upper and lower limbs. On skin biopsy Fite stain revealed numerous acid fast bacilli and clusters of macrophages in vascular endothelium. Bacteriological index of 6+. Concluding diagnosis of Lepromatous leprosy with ulcerative reaction ( Lucio's Phenomenon). Even when the Dominican Republic has many controlled cases of leprosy this is the first case with all clinical, histopathologic and bacteriological findings for Lucio's Phenomenon described.

Keywords: Hansen's Disease, Lucio's Phenomenon, vasculonecrotic reactions.

