



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

## NECROTIC ULCERATIONS DURING A LEPROMATOUS LEPROSY REACTION STATE: LUCIO'S PHENOMENON?

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Introduction: Lucio's phenomenon is a type 2 reaction state exceptionally reported in Africa and Asia. It's characterized by necrotic ulcerations localized preferentially to the lower limbs occurring particularly during an evolutionary Lucio leprosy. We report a case revealed after 15 months of PCT treatment.

Observation: SC 45 years old housewife in Selibaly (Kayes region), tested since March 2017 for MB leprosy under PCT according to the WHO protocol, admitted in dermatology in August 2018 for diffuse cutaneous ulcerations and deterioration of the general condition. It began by poly arthralgia and plaque painful edematous changes progressively to ulceration. The physical examination revealed a fever at 38°C, circumscribed placards disseminated on the body with multiple small ulcers sensitive to touch, hypochromic spots and some lepromas between these placards. The palpation of the peripheral nerve found hypertrophy of the nerves: ulnar, popliteal and radial. The biologic assessment performed showed a hypochromic microcytic anemia (Hb: 5,6g/dl). Histology showed epidermal necrosis with images of leukocytoclastic vasculitis. The diagnosis of Lucio's phenomenon has been made. Treatment based on prednisone 40 mg per day associated with local care, an antibiotherapy, a transfusion of two units of blood and rehydration 1 liter per day was established. After a month of treatment, the general condition was very satisfactory, the ulcerations were well healed.

Discussion: we reported an unusual second presentation of Lucio's phenomenon which is a severe variant of erythema nodosum leprosum that can be fatal. Usually described in South America, the Lucio's phenomenon can also be seen in Africa. Besides typical cutaneous lesions, necrotic wounds must be among the cutaneous signs that may reveal leprosy particularly in endemic countries.

