



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

## PRIMARY CUTANEOUS COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS MIMICKING FOLLICULITIS. CASE REPORT AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE.

*M Mora Morelos<sup>(1)</sup> - Vm Tarango Martínez<sup>(1)</sup>*

*Instituto Dermatológico De Jalisco, Universidad De Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico<sup>(1)</sup>*

Background: Coccidioidomycosis is the oldest of the major systemic mycoses, it is caused by the dimorphic fungus *Coccidioides immitis* located in Southern California and *Coccidioides posadasii* occurring in all other endemic areas, mainly in semi desert areas.

The most frequent clinical presentation, 98% of the time, is the primary pulmonary coccidioidomycosis, causing hematogenous dissemination. The remaining 2% corresponds to the primary cutaneous form, clinically causing nodules sometimes with ulceration and in some other cases presenting verrucosum injuries, occurring 15-20 days after traumatic inoculation of contaminated material.

Diagnosis is made by clinical examination aided by Wilkins criteria. The mycological direct examination shows spherules (double membrane spherical structures 2-5µm size); with 4-8 days growing colonies in agar Sabouraud mycological culture.

Observation: 75-yo female, living in Guadalajara, México. With immunosuppression factors and history of living in California, USA for 16 years.

She presents a dermatosis located in anterior and right side of the trunk, comprised by some papules, pustules and nodules seated on an erythematous base with 4 months of evolution, with no respiratory commitment.

Gram and Ziehl-Neelsen stain were performed as well as mycological direct examination with negative results, mycological culture with white-yellowish colonies that under microscope showed filaments with arthrospores compatible with *Coccidioides* spp; with coccidioidina reaction of 40mm in 48 hours and coccidioidina antigen precipitation band and positive complement fixation test 1:320. Itraconazol treatment was initiated which resulted in some improvement in the lesions with a tendency to cure.

Key message: This is a rare form of presentation that sometimes mimics other diseases like folliculitis (like this case) or sporotrichosis. In order to reach the diagnosis of primary cutaneous coccidioidomycosis, it's important to perform a good and complete physical examination as well as mycological tests, and to discard pulmonary disease, this will give us an accurate conclusion.

