



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

STEEL MAGNOLIAS: ERYTHEMA INDURATUM IN A MOTHER AND CHILD

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Background: Erythema induratum of Bazin (EI) is a chronic recurrent panniculitis with vasculitis typically manifesting as erythematous, tender, nodules with occasional ulceration and scarring on the posterior calves as a hypersensitivity reaction to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB). EI represents 35.8% of all cutaneous MTB infections in a recent retrospective study. Familial, non-MTB related cases of EI have been infrequently reported.

Observation: A 60-year old mother and a 26-year old daughter both developed multiple erythematous well-defined round tender nodules, measuring between 0.5-1.0cm in size, some ulcerated, on the posterolateral and less on the anterior aspects of their bilateral lower extremities; mother had earlier onset and more lesions involving the posterior arms as well. Mother had no prior *Bacillus Calmette-Guérin* (BCG) vaccination while daughter received immunization. Both of them are working in a healthcare environment; the mother works as a dentist in a local health center, while the daughter works as a nurse in a tertiary hospital. Chest radiography and direct sputum smear microscopy did not show active tuberculosis infection; however, tuberculin-skin-test were positive for the mother and daughter (>10mm, >15mm induration, respectively). Wound culture of an ulcerated lesion in the mother showed heavy growth of *Pseudomonas stutzerii*. Adequate management of EI required antibiotic treatment of the non-MTB infection, a six-month anti-tuberculosis therapy as well as symptom control using non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

Key message: EI, though highly correlated with cutaneous tuberculosis, may also be associated with other infectious etiology necessitating antibacterial therapy in conjunction with appropriate anti-tuberculosis regimen. A local registry, specially in countries where tuberculosis is prevalent, of cutaneous TB is warranted for effective disease control of an important public health cutaneous condition.

