



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

THE CLINICAL IMPACT OF SPOROTRICHOSIS IN ELDERLY PATIENTS IN AN HYPERENDEMIC ENVIROMENT

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Background: Sporotrichosis is a subacute or chronic infection caused by the dimorphic fungus *Sporothrix schenckii*, and is the most prevalent subcutaneous mycosis in Latin America, with worldwide distribution, especially in tropical and subtropical areas. Since 1998, an increasing number of cases have been diagnosed in the state of Rio de Janeiro, reaching epidemic proportion and the transmission has been attributed to infected cats. Because of that, notification is mandatory.

Observation: A 85-year-old female patient, phototype II of Fitzpatrick scale, who lives in an urban area of Rio de Janeiro, refers the appearance of lesions, 5 months prior. She has a history of well controlled hypertension and type II diabetes mellitus. Dermatological examination revealed erythematous and infiltrated violaceous plaques with central ulceration located in the anterior and posterior faces of the left forearm without lymphadenopathy. The differential diagnoses were Cutaneous lymphoma and infectious diseases. After one month of the incisional biopsy and the culture, the lesions evolved to verrucous plaques with purulent drainage. The histopathological exam and culture confirmed *Sporothrix* sp.

We concluded that was a fixed cutaneous form of Sporotrichosis, we certified that full blood count, urea and creatinine as well as liver function were normal, to start oral antifungal treatment with Itraconazole. The follow up was continuous until the complete resolution of the lesions.

Key message: The aim of this case report is to highlight the extensive epidemic development of Sporotrichosis in Rio de Janeiro through all ages, and the importance of continuous ambulatory follow up to manage the evolution of different aspects of the disease.

