



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

TWO RARE CASES OF REACTIVE PERFORATING LEPROSY FROM INDONESIA

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Background: Leprosy reaction is an acute inflammatory condition in chronic leprosy, which can occur before, during, or after treatment of leprosy. Based on clinical and histopathological features, leprosy reactions can be divided into type 1 and type 2. The most common clinical manifestation of type 2 leprosy reactions is erythema nodosum leprosum (ENL). Reactive perforating leprosy (RPL) or ENL pustular is a rare atypical form of type 2 leprosy reaction. The aim of this report was to present two rare cases of RPL from Indonesia.

Observation: Here we report for the first time two rare cases of RPL in Indonesian lepromatous leprosy (LL) patients who diagnosed based on clinical manifestation and histopathological examination. First case, a 39- years-old male presented with painful punched-out ulcers over the back, arms, and legs. The histopathological examination showed invagination of the epidermis filled with numerous neutrophil infiltrates, and also lymphocytes and foamy histiocytes infiltration in the dermis. Second case, a 24-years-old female presented with multiple punched-out ulcers on the face, hands, and legs, with histopathological examination showed invagination of the epidermis, intracorneal abscess, and infiltration of foamy macrophages with lymphocytes in the dermis. Both patients were diagnosed as LL with type 2 leprosy reaction manifested as RPL. The patients were given multidrug therapy-multibacillary and 40 mg prednisone daily which tapered off. Clinical improvement were observed within two weeks after the start of treatment.

Key message: As one of the variant type 2 leprosy reaction, RPL should be considered as a diagnosis in leprosy patients who present with punch-out ulcers.

