INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

ANNULAR ELASTOLYTIC GIANT CELL GRANULOMA: A CASE REPORT

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Background: Annular elastolytic giant cell granuloma (AEGCG) is a rare granulomatous cutaneous reaction pattern in which damaged dermal elastic fibers are slowly eliminated by multinucleated giant cells and histiocytes.

Observation: A 60-year-old otherwise healthy caucasian female presented with a two-months history of pruritic, erythematous plaques, progressively increasing in number, located in the lower two thirds of her face, notably in malar region. A skin biopsy was taken revealing fragmented elastic fibers, irregularly distributed, with histiocytoid phenotype cells infiltrate, some multinucleated, and phagocytosis of elastic fibers confirmed by Von Gieson staining. No epithelioid granulomas or mucin in reticular dermis were identified. The diagnosis of AEGCG was assumed. The patient was treated with oral hydroxychloroquine 400 mg/day and showed a significant clinical improvement after two months.

Key message: AEGCG is a rare dermatosis which typically occurs in sun-exposed skin and predominantly affects women. Differential diagnosis includes sarcoidosis, annular granuloma and other granulomatous diseases of unknown etiology. Skin biopsy is essential to establish diagnosis. Because AEGCG is an uncommon condition, there are no established treatment recommendations. This was the case of a patient that responded well to oral hydroxychloroquine.