



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

LINEAR LICHEN SCLEROSUS OVER THE FACE: A CASE REPORT.

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Background: Lichen sclerosus (LS) is a chronic inflammatory disease of unknown origin, which mostly affects women in the fifties and sixties, but can also occur in men and children. LS commonly affects the anogenital region, so only quite rarely it presents as an isolated extragenital lesion. Extragenital lichen sclerosus (ELS) is most common on the neck, shoulders and upper trunk. But the linear distribution of ELS lesions are rare.

Observation: A 45 years old Nepali female presented with a mildly pruritic single linear plaque gradually increasing over the right temporal face for the last six months. On physical examination, a linear slightly atrophic plaque with prominent follicular plugging was noted along the right temporal-mandibular region. Cicatricial alopecia was also noted over the lesional skin of temple.

Histopathology examination of the lesion showed thinning of epidermis with lamellated keratin layer with areas of follicular plugging. Basement membrane was delicate. The dermis was relatively thickened. Focal areas in lower dermis shows lymphocytic aggregates adjacent to the hair follicles. Sparse hair follicles and few horn cysts were seen in the upper dermis. Patient was started on topical potent corticosteroid. Slight improvement was noted on two weeks' follow-up.

Key message: Linear ELS is a rare condition with only few cases reported. This condition needs to be differentiate from morphea and discoid lupus erythematosus due to clinical similarity of follicular plugging and atrophy.

