



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

SWEET SYNDROME INDUCED BY SCORPION STING: AN UNUSUAL PRESENTATION

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Introduction: Sweet Syndrome (SS) or acute neutrophilic dermatosis may be associated with several diseases including infections, inflammatory diseases and malignancies. We report a rare case of SS induced by a bite of Scorpion.

Observation: A 45-year-old woman, with no medical history, presented with malaise, fevers, and a painful erythematous plaque on the dorsum of her right foot which appeared one week previously, two days after a scorpion sting in the same foot. Physical examination showed a well-demarcated, tender erythematous, edematous plaque with overlying tense and flaccid bullae. Laboratory examination showed slightly increased levels C-reactive protein (15.0 mg/dl) with no leukocytosis. Cultures from skin and blood were negatives. She was treated by two intravenous antibiotics for 15 days with no improvement and development of a similar plaque on the right leg. Biopsy of revealed dense neutrophilic infiltrate with dermal edema without vasculitis suggestive of SS. Extensive evaluation for other underlying disorders, including malignancy, was negative. A diagnosis of Sweet syndrome, secondary to scorpion sting was made. Prednisone 1mg/kg/day was commenced with the prompt resolution of fever. The plaque regressed after 45 days with residual pigmentation.

Key message: We report an unusual case of sweet syndrome induced by a scorpion sting. It can be explained by the phenomenon of pathergy, an important pathological feature of SS. Diagnosis should be made in the presence of painful erythematous lesions associated with fever, malaise and arthralgia, and confirmed by biopsy to allow early treatment.

