



NAIL DISORDERS

## A NOVEL TREATMENT FOR PROXIMAL NAIL FOLD PYOGENIC GRANULOMA: CASE REPORT

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**Background:** Pyogenic granuloma is a benign vascular lesion of mucosa and skin. Sometimes it can involve nails, including the periungual tissue and the nail bed. Several treatment options have been described for this condition. Conservative therapies as topical steroid, topical phenol 8%, mupirocin, imiquimod cream are obviously the first choice but sometimes surgery is needed. However, it is difficult to perform when lesions are located near the proximal nail fold.

**Observation:** Five patients (median age 20, 3 female, 2 male) with a proximal nail fold pyogenic granuloma were enrolled. They were previously treated with topical steroids and antibiotics with a poor response. Most of the patients had pain and bleeding was the most common complication. Clinically the involved nail was thick and hyperkeratotic so chemical onycholysis with 50% urea (daily applied) for 3 weeks, was performed. After 3 weeks of treatment the thinning of the nail improved the pyogenic granuloma and after 6 weeks it was completely resolved.

**Key message:** Proximal nail fold pyogenic granuloma is very difficult to treat, and often surgery is not applicable. The thickness of the nail could be a risk factor to develop the granuloma and its decrease could be an effective way to reduce inflammation, improve paronychia and remove the nail pyogenic granuloma.

