



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

DIVERSE CUTANEOUS MANIFESTATIONS OF LANGERHANS CELL HISTIOCYTOSIS: A 10-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY IN THAI CHILDREN

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Introduction: Langerhans cell histiocytosis (LCH) is a rare proliferative disease frequently affecting in children. Cutaneous manifestations are common and are useful for early disease diagnosis.

Objective: To explore the morphologic characteristics of skin lesions, extent of extra-cutaneous disease and outcomes in a patient with LCH.

Materials and Methods: Ten years retrospective cohort study in a university hospital in Northeast Thailand. The authors compared subgroups of children with single-system, skin-only, and multisystem disease and sought signs predictive for multisystem disease. IRB was approved (#HE591399).

Results: We identified 36 cases diagnosed with LCH. The mean age at the time of diagnosis was 29 months (SD 3.1), ranged 4 months to 13 years (median 7). Cutaneous lesions were found in 28/36 patients with isolated cutaneous LCH (4 cases), cutaneous LCH with systemic involvement (24 cases) and non-cutaneous LCH (8 cases). The common presenting skin lesions led for disease diagnosis were seborrheic dermatitis-like lesion (25%), cutaneous nodules (19.4%) and petechiae (13.8%). Extra-cutaneous lesions found in the study population were bone lesions (46%), lymphadenopathy (37%), hepatosplenomegaly (34%), and bone marrow involvement (25%). Skin lesion morphologic traits did not correlate with extent of extra-cutaneous disease. The overall outcome and prognosis are good. All of these patients are alive and doing well, one patient has developed diabetes insipidus.

Conclusions: Seborrheic dermatitis-like lesions are common in childhood LCH. Identifying cutaneous lesions are helpful in early diagnosis of LCH, however the morphologic characteristics of cutaneous lesions are not helpful in predicting the extent of disease. Both cutaneous LCH, with or without other organ involvement at the time of





diagnosis has a good overall prognosis in Thai population.

