



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

SCLEREMA NEONATORUM : CASE REPORT

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Background : Sclerema neonatorum (SN) is a rare and serious skin disorder with generalized hardening subcutaneous tissue. It is especially seen in premature infants during the first week of life. The skin is tied directly to the underlying subcutaneous tissues, including bones and muscles, and hardening usually begins in the buttocks, thigh or trunk and then diffuse to involve other parts of the body. Areas without fat are usually spared. Movement, feeding and breathing are affected. The prognosis is generally unfortunate.

Observation : It was an infant on D10 of life, pre-matured, hospitalized in neonatology for acute respiratory distress, which had since birth a diffuse induration of the skin. Dermatological examination showed the presence of a generalized sclerosis taking the whole body respecting the genitals as well as the palmo-plantar region, the diagnosis of newborn sclerema was retained after eliminating other diagnoses including neonatal cytostéotonecrosis and scleroderma, then was put on cortico antibiotic combination with a good evolution.

Key message : Sclerema neonatorum is a rare pathology mainly affecting premature newborns, its pathogenesis remains unclear and despite the diversity of therapeutic means, the prognosis remains reserved with a fairly high mortality rate.

