



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

## IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE THERAPY-RELATED KAPOSI SARCOMA IN MAINLAND CHINA

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**Background:** Immunosuppressive therapy-related Kaposi sarcoma (KS) is observed in patients who undergo organ transplantation. However, in rare cases, KS can develop in patients with other diseases.

**Objective:** To report a rare case of cutaneous KS and evaluate the clinical characteristics of immunosuppressive therapy-related KS in mainland China.

**Methods:** We report a case of immunosuppressive therapy-related KS in a 66-year-old man diagnosed with bullous pemphigoid (BP) and treated with methotrexate and corticosteroids. Further, we performed an evidence-based review of pertinent literature published in Chinese-language databases from January 1995 to October 2017 to assess the clinical course of patients with immunosuppressive therapy-related KS.

**Results:** The patient was successfully treated, and there was no recurrence during the follow-up period. In mainland China, immunosuppressive therapy-related KS developed predominantly after renal transplant; the most commonly used medications were prednisone and cyclosporine A. Treatment comprising either surgical excision alone or in combination with radiotherapy yielded good results in patients without systemic involvement.

**Conclusions:** For patients with immunosuppressive therapy-related KS using immunosuppressive medication, stopping or reducing immunosuppressive medicines may lead to worsening of the underlying disease. Treating lesions with surgical excision or combined with radiotherapy can yield good results in patients without systemic involvement.

