SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

PYOGENIC GRANULOMA-LIKE KAPOSI SARCOMA: A DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGE

Nadia Nabli [1] - Nadia Ghariani Fetoui [1] - Najet Ghariani [1] - Rima Gammoudi [1] - Marouene Belkahla [1] - Lobna Boussofara [1] - Wafa Saidi [1] - Sana Mokni [1] - Amina Aounallah [1] - Colandane Belajouza [1] - Mohamed Denguezli [1] - Rafiaa Nouira [1]

Farhat Hached Hospital, Departement Of Dermatology, Sousse, Tunisia [1]

Introduction: Kaposi sarcoma (KS) is a low-grade angioproliferative tumor with a wide spectrum of clinical and histological features. Here, we report a case of a KS mimicking a pyogenic granuloma (PG).

Case report: An 81-year-old Tunisian woman presented with a painless nodule on the medial side of the left heel that had gradually increased in size over the course of 2 months. Physical examination revealed a 2 cm × 3 cm, circumscribed, exophytic reddish-colored nodule associated with two other smaller purple-colored nodules.The patient did not show other abnormal physical findings, and did not have a history of immunodepression or HIV infection. The clinical findings suggested a possible diagnosis of pyogenic granuloma. Skin biopsy revealed an epidermal ulceration with closely packed spindle cells, and proliferation of vascular endothelial cells, with extravasated erythrocytes. The vessels and spindle cell areas were positive for CD34 as well as immunostaining for human herpesvirus 8 (HHV-8). The lesion was diagnosed as KS. Laboratory tests and radiological examinations were performed to eliminate an aggressive variant, and returned to be normal. The lesion was treated with CO2 laser excision.

Discussion: PG-like KS is a very rare variant of KS, which shows clinical and histopathological features of both PG and KS. Approximately 15 cases of PG-like KS have been described in the literature so far.Most reported patientswith PG-like KS are men, older than 60 years and without HIV. While PG typically presents on upper extremities, PG-like KS occurs on both hands and feet. Distinguishing PG-like KS from PG by clinical findings only is very difficult.Hence, histopathological examination, including HHV-8 staining, is necessary to establish the diagnosis.