



SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

TWO CASES OF FOLLICULOTROPIC MYCOSIS FUNGOIDES

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Background: Mycosis fungoides (MF) is a disorder with many clinical and histological variants. Folliculotropic MF is a distinctive variant of the disease with the predominant involvement of the hair follicles. The disease is frequently accompanied by hair loss.

Observation: We present 2 cases of folliculotropic mycosis fungoides associated with alopecia. The first case is woman whose disease started in 2011 at the age of 33. Initially manifesting with cutaneous itching it later showed follicular papules which produced exsudate (mucin) on squeezing. The rash was accompanied by progressive loss of hair. It took 4 years and 3 biopsies to make a diagnosis. The second case was an adolescent (15 y.o.) at the beginning of the disease. It manifested clinically as an adult variant of atopic dermatitis with concomitant superimposed pustular lesions. 4 years and 5 biopsies later a diagnosis of folliculotropic mycosis fungoides was established.

Key message: just like regular mycosis fungoides a folliculotropic variant can be challenging to diagnose promptly both clinically and histologically. Multiple simultaneous wide (2-3 cm) biopsies are providing more histological material and should therefore be routinely applied in patients with suspected MF.

