



SKIN MANIFESTATIONS OF INTERNAL DISEASE

BONE IN THE SKIN: MILIARY OSTEOMA CUTIS

Harsh Tahiliani⁽¹⁾ - Manjit Kaur Sandhu Tahiliani⁽¹⁾ - Sushil Tahiliani⁽¹⁾

Dr Tahiliani's Clinic, Dermatology, Mumbai, India⁽¹⁾

Background: Osteoma cutis is a benign skin disorder characterized by the formation of bone in skin. Very few cases have been reported worldwide. Primary osteoma cutis occurs de novo, whereas the secondary type develops in association with the underlying inflammatory, tumorous or traumatic conditions.

Observation: A 37-year-old female patient presented with multiple lesions on the face of very long-standing duration. The patient had a history of inflammatory acne as a teenager. The lesions were asymptomatic but were of a cosmetic concern to the patient. On clinical examination, multiple firm skin coloured papules were seen on the cheeks extending upto the chin.

A skin biopsy was performed from one such lesion to establish the diagnosis. A nodular bone lamella which contained osteocytes and osteoclasts was seen. An x-ray of the soft tissue of face was done which depicted multiple millet like opacities and a diagnosis of miliary osteoma cutis was made. Incision and curettage of some lesions was done for treating the obvious lesions.

Key message: Osteoma cutis is a rare skin disease and a high index of suspicion is needed to diagnose cases. Very little is known about the pathogenesis of this disease and it has very limited and not so satisfactory treatment options.

