



SKIN MANIFESTATIONS OF INTERNAL DISEASE

## MICRONODULAR TUBERCULIDES MIMICKING ROSACEA: A CASE REPORT

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Tuberculosis (TB) is a chronic infectious disease with a wide clinical spectrum. It is caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Tuberculides of face, also called lichen scrofulous are the result of a cutaneous hypersensitivity reaction to antigens generated in response to a distant primary pulmonary or extrapulmonary tuberculosis.

Patients with tuberculides may have a latent TB infection and exhibit no other clinical feature apart from the cutaneous lesions.

The diagnosis is made upon clinical and histological features, along with the evidence of a TB infection elsewhere, a positive skin test for TB and a good therapeutic response to antituberculous.

We report the case of a 50 year old woman who had erythema and papular rosacea-like lesions on her eyelids, cheeks and nose. The dermatosis was treated as papulopustular rosacea for two years, with no response to topical and oral treatments.

Her family history was remarkable, her brother was HIV positive and had pulmonary tuberculosis.

The histological analysis of one of the lesions and a hyperergic reaction to PPD (purified protein derivative) made the diagnosis of micronodular tuberculides of face. She was treated according to the OMS antituberculosis treatment for 6 months with resolution of the skin condition.

Tuberculids are usually a diagnostic challenge, mainly because of the rarity of the disease. In India, which has one of the world's highest burdens of TB, the prevalence of cutaneous tuberculosis is 0.1%, of which only 6.8% are tuberculids.

At the Centro "Dr. Ladislao de la Pascua" in Mexico, a total of 443 cases of cutaneous tuberculosis were diagnosed from 1985 to 2000, from which 36% were erythema induratum of Bazin, 26% micronodular tuberculids of the face and 13% warty tuberculosis.

**Key words:** Micronodular tuberculids of the face

