



SKIN MANIFESTATIONS OF INTERNAL DISEASE

PALMOPLANTAR KERATODERMA REVEALING SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER

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Background: Palmoplantar keratodermas are a heterogeneous group of disorders characterized by hyperkeratosis of the palms and soles and broadly classified into inherited and acquired types.

We report a case of a palmoplantar keratoderma unveiling small cell lung carcinoma.

Observation: A 62-year-old man with a 45 pack-year history of smoking, presented to the dermatology department with progressive thickening of the palms and soles that had been present for 2 years, with maximal involvement of the soles associated to onychogriphosis (Panel A). The patient exhibited no other lesions, especially no fine scale on the antihelix neither the nose, and had no constitutional symptoms. Symptomatic treatment was unsuccessful.

Complementray exams showed keratoderma features on skin biopsy and elevated level of serum carcinoembryonic antigen. A suspicious opacity on chest X-Ray was detected, which led to perform a CT-scan revealing a lung tumor (Panel B). The tumor-node-metastasis (TNM) staging was T4N1M0, and CT-Guided biopsy unveiled small cell lung carcinoma.

A diagnosis of paraneoplastic palmoplantar keratoderma resulting from lung cancer was made and patient underwent mechanical keratolysis associated to chemotherapy with good results up today.

Key message: Paraneoplastic palmoplantar keratoderma has to be differentiated from non-cancerous conditions, and management of acquired PPK should not delay diagnosis of visceral malignancy.

