

TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY

MUCOCUTANEOUS LEISHMANIASIS, A REALITY IN ECUADOR

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INTRODUCTION: In Ecuador, Leishmaniasis constitutes a public health problem, is endemic in 21 of the 24 provinces of the country, 95% of cases are cutaneous, there are few reports of mucocutaneous (CML) in the region and the majority include cases with affection in periorificial zones

BACKGROUND: Male 39 years old, from the Ecuadorian Amazon. Oil worker. He consulted for 3 years of evolution of papules that ulcerated in the nasal tip, caused by an insect bite, this ulcerated papule disappears without treatment after 8 months.

1 year later, the patient presents a foreign body sensation in the oropharynx, accompanied by dysphonia, dysphagia for solids and weight loss. He received several outpatient treatments without improvement. Otolaryngologist rules out neoplastic processes and requests dermatological evaluation.

Physical examination vital signs were stable, he was asthenic. He presented dermatosis located on the soft palate, characterized by an exophytic erythematous, irregular neoformation that blocks more than 80% of the respiratory tract and absence of uvula.

Towards the nose, erythema and thickening of the columella and nasal septum. Rhinoscopia neoformation erythematous that partially obstructs the right nostril. Bilateral submaxillary adenopathies not painful. No visceromegalias.

Analytical exams hepatic and renal function were normal, immunological studies negative, simple and contrasted CT of head, thorax and abdomen without alteration.

Histopathological study of the skin: Suppurative granulomatous reaction, lymphohistiocytic infiltrate with plasma cells, mastocytic cells and amastigotes.

PCR: *Leishmania braziliensis*.

We started treatment with meglumine, 3 cycles of 28 days, with a satisfactory response.

KEY MESSAGE: CML can simulate a midline neoplasm. This diagnosis was not initially considered despite the patient's origin, 3 to 5% of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis can develop CML like this case.

It is important to consider CML in similar cases from endemic areas since early diagnosis and treatment influence the quality of life of the patient