



VASCULAR DISEASE, VASCULITIS

TOE NECROSIS: REPORT OF UNCOMMON ETIOLOGY

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Background: Toe necrosis is a redoubtable and a potentially fatal affection that can occur following direct and indirect causes of necrosis and related lower limb gangrene. The most incriminated pathology in the literature is ischemia. Our study reports a case of an uncommon etiology of toe necrosis.

Observation: A 20-year-old male patient with no history of vascular disease was admitted within our institution for an unpainful bilateral feet gangrene. He had no evident symptoms of claudication or Raynaud's phenomenon. The patient had a poorly controlled type 1 diabetes. He was daily smoking cannabis-containing cigarettes.

The clinical inspection revealed a bilateral dry necrosis of the left forefoot and the right toes. Tibial and pedal pulses were symmetrically well received and the temperature of both feet was normal and identical.

Laboratory biological examinations were in the normal range. No cardiac involvement or other particularity was found. No acute infection was detected. In fact, blood culture, hepatitis, syphilitic and HIV serology were negative. The immunological testing was normal. The CT angiography showed no evidence of stenosis or arterial thrombosis., and a cerebral, thoracic, abdominal and pelvic CT scan were normal. The X-ray didn't reveal an osteolytic bone lesion of the toes.

The patient then underwent left transmetatarsal and right foot toes amputation. The final pathological report on the amputated tissue confirmed tissue necrosis, without identifiable cholesterol embols or suspicious lesions.. We finally have concluded that necrosis was caused by cannabis use.

Key message: Our case report suggests that there is a higher risk of foot involvement in patients with diabetes using cannabis, which can lead to toe necrosis and gangrene. Diabetic patients should be educated about the high risk of cannabis use and smoke cessation must be encouraged.

