



VASCULAR DISEASE, VASCULITIS

VASCULITIS INDUCED BY BEDBUGS: ABOUT A CASE

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Background: Bedbug infestations are increasing worldwide. These nocturnal hematophagous bites, may cause various and sometimes severe cutaneous reaction. We report an atypical presentation of bedbug bites.

Observation: A healthy, 27 year-old female patient, presented to our department with recurrent, itchy and erythematous plaques of two week's duration. The patient reported a recent relocation. Physical examination revealed widespread, multiple erythematous plaques, with purpuric border and a central hemorrhagic punctum. The diagnoses of bedbug bites was suspected. In fact, careful inspection of the bed and furniture revealed the presence of small dark marks corresponding to bed bug faecal matters. Routine blood tests showed no abnormalities. Histological examination revealed the presence of neutrophilic and eosinophilic perivascular infiltrate concluding to a leucocytoclastic vasculitis. The patient was putted under topical corticosteroids with a spectacular improvement. The disinfection of locals was advised.

Key words: Bedbugs bites are caused by blood feeding insects. The two main species of bed bugs are *Cimex lectularius* and *Cimex hemipterus*. Because bed bugs feed at night and inject an anesthetic when biting, the initial bite is not felt. Thus, the diagnosis is often difficult. It's almost the detection of bed bug faecal matter (small dark marks) in or around the bed which allows to suspect the diagnosis. Clinical manifestations are various: isolated pruritus, papules, nodules and bullous eruptions. Systemic and anaphylactic reaction were rarely reported. Our case showed an atypical clinical and histological presentation.

