



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

## **SOLITARY GRANULOMA PYOGENICUM OVER FACE FOLLOWING ISOTRETINOIN THERAPY MIMICKING INFLAMMED ACNE PAPULE: MYSTRY RESOLVED BY DERMOSCOPY**

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**Background:** Pyogenic granulomas are commonly acquired benign vascular tumors. They frequently involve the periungual tissues. PGs can occur secondarily to acute or chronic trauma, infection, drugs and the hormonal changes of pregnancy. Systemic retinoids are known to cause PGs, and most common location is periungual tissue.

**Observation:** A 27 year old man visited the dermatology out patient with an asymptomatic pinkish-red papule of 15 days duration over the left cheek. He was receiving oral isotretinoin 20mg/day for acne vulgaris for last 2 months and had been lesion free for last 3 weeks. Therefore he thought this to be a minor relapse. A solitary 0.5x0.5 cm dome shaped shiny erythematous papule over left cheek was initially interpreted as acne. The soft papule was compressible on dermoscopy (DermLite DL 4®) and on polarized mode revealed homogenous red area, white collarette, vascular structures and white rail lines intersecting the lesion; features typical of pyogenic granuloma (PG).

**Key message:** Pyogenic granuloma following isotretinoin in acne patients mostly occurs on digits, trunk and healing acne scar sites; rarely over face. All the reported cases of PG following isotretinoin had multiple lesions, while in our case it was single lesion. None of the previous facial PG cases were confirmed on dermoscopy, as opposed to that, we were able to confirm our diagnosis on dermoscopy only, thus avoiding misdiagnosis and need of invasive biopsy which is rewarding in case of infliction of cosmetic areas.

