



Papular Purpuric Gloves and Socks Syndrome Related to Parvovirus B19 Infection

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Abstract

A 38-year-old female patient was admitted to our outpatient clinic with fever arthralgia accompanied by purpuric and papular lesions lasting for five days. The syndrome is generally self-limited; however, patients may sometimes need hospitalization for supportive therapy. Although it is rarely seen in adults, Parvovirus B19 should be kept in mind and recognized as an important causative agent of this syndrome.

Keywords: Socks Syndrome, Parvovirus B19, papular purpuric gloves

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Papular Purpuric Gloves and Socks Syndrome Related to Parvovirus B19 Infection

A 38-year-old female patient was admitted to our outpatient clinic with fever arthralgia accompanied by purpuric and papular lesions lasting for five days. Her initial symptoms were sore throat, fever and rash especially on both hands and feet. Additionally, acute-onset pain and swelling of her hands and feet were also present. She had been given ceftriaxone 1 gr twice a day intravenously in an outside outpatient clinic. Non resolution of her symptoms four days after starting treatment and a spike in her temperature (39 degrees Celsius on admission) led her to our outpatient clinic.

On admission, the patient had a body temperature of 39 °C, pulse 100 beats per minute, and blood pressure of 120/70 mmHg. On physical examination bilateral tonsillitis, enanthems, herpetiform oral lesions on the soft palate and macular purpuric and papular rashes on hands and feet were seen (Fig. 1, Fig. 2 and Fig. 3). Initial laboratory studies were notable for leukocytes: 7.000/mm³, Hb: 11.2 g/dL, Hct: %38.5; thrombocytes: 96.000/mm³; C reactive protein was 66.3 mg/dL (0-8 mg/dL), and erythrocyte sedimentation rate was 30 mm/h (0-20 mm/h). Serological tests were negative for HSV, EBV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, Rubella, Measles, Coxsackie A/B and CMV. Tests for syphilis, salmonellosis, brucellosis, and toxoplasmosis were also negative. On the other hand, Parvovirus B19 IgM and IgG was found to be positive by ELISA. The diagnosis of PPGSS was made. The lesions were cleared without therapy in 8 days with plantar and palmar desquamation.

The papular purpuric gloves and socks syndrome (PPGSS) is an unusual acrodermatosis typically characterized by edema, erythema, and a highly pruritic, petechial rash involving the distal upper and lower extremities and various oral lesions that are accompanied by mild systemic manifestations, including low-grade fever and myalgias. The syndrome is generally self-limited; however, patients may sometimes need hospitalization for supportive therapy. Although it is rarely seen in adults, Parvovirus B19 should be kept in mind and recognized as an important causative agent of this syndrome.

Declaration of Interest: No Conflict of Interest



Fig 1. Macular purpuric and papular rashes on hands



Fig 2. Macular purpuric and papular rashes on feet



Fig 3. Bilateral tonsillitis, enanthems, herpetiform oral lesions on the soft palate