Case for diagnosis
Caso para diagnóstico

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HISTORY OF THE DISEASE

Seventy-six-year-old female patient, who presented with lymphadenopathy in the cervical (Figure 1) and left axillary region two years before. After one year, fistulization and drainage of whitish material from the lesions began, along with weight loss and appearing of annular lichenoid lesions with atrophic center in the dorsal region (Figure 2), slightly pruritic. Six months ago, a biopsy of the cervical region was performed, with inconclusive findings. Afterwards, the patient was referred for dermatological evaluation, when material was collected from the cervical region, cultured and tested by means of Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR). Besides that, biopsies were carried out for the dorsal lichenoid lesions, and Mantoux test and routine laboratorial examination were requested, under the suspicion of scrofuloderma and lichen scrofulosorum. At this occasion, patient presented bad general state and persistent fever, with important weight loss and lack of appetite.

Reaction to Mantoux was intense, 24 mm, with a globular sedimentation rate of 96 mm, negative culture of cervical material, and PCR positive for Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

Histopathological examination of the dorsal lesions revealed focal spongiosis in the epidermis, with a few necrotic keratinocytes, presenting an epi-

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Abstract: Tuberculids are cutaneous immunologic reactions to the presence of tuberculosis, which is often occult elsewhere in the body. A wide range of skin disorders has been interpreted as tuberculids in the past. Currently, however, only three entities are regarded as true tuberculids: papulonecrotic tuberculid, erythema induratum and lichen scrofulosorum. Patients with lichen scrofulosorum have a strongly positive tuberculin reaction and an excellent response to treatment with antituberculous drugs.

Keywords: Antituberculous agents; Mycobacterium tuberculosis; Tuberculosis, cutaneous

Resumo: As tuberculídes são reações cutâneas imunológicas à presença de tuberculose, que com frequência se encontra oculta no organismo. Antigamente um grande número de lesões cutâneas era interpretado como tuberculíde. Atualmente, porém, apenas três entidades são consideradas verdadeiras tuberculídes: tuberculíde papulonecrotíca, eritema indurado e o líquen scrofulosorum. Pacientes com líquen scrofulosorum apresentam forte reação ao teste de Mantoux e excelente resposta aos tuberculostáticos.

Palavras-chave: Antituberculosos; Mycobacterium tuberculosis; Tuberculose cutânea
REFERENCES


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