

Comparative Dermatology* *Dermatologia comparativa**

Valdilene Loures de Souza¹Juliana Cristina Silva Fraga²Aloísio Gamonal³

Abstract: The authors show a case of keloid that is reminiscent of the bow-tie, a male piece of apparel.

Keywords: Growth; Sternum; Keloid

Resumo: Os autores relatam um caso de quelóide que reporta à gravata borboleta, acessório de trajes em geral masculinos.

Palavras-chave: Crescimento; Esterno; Quelóide

The first traces of garment pieces such as ties date back to the third century B.C. However, what really gave rise to widespread use in the world was the 30 Years War, which devastated Europe during the 17th. Century. At this time, the Sacred Roman Empire waged war against the Bohemian protestant aristocracy.

The French, belonging to the latter group, had their army made up mostly of mercenaries, among whom there was a group of Croatian warriors who wore, as part of their clothes, a type of scarf around the neck, similar to what would later be ties. Influenced by the Croatians, the French soldiers also started wearing the ornament. At the end of the war, the French aristocracy started wearing it, aiming at looking like its warriors in order to be better accepted by the people. The king of England, leaving exile in France, took the new fashion to his homeland. From that time on, the tie spread throughout Europe and, with maritime expansion, conquered new continents.^{1,2} However, it is in the 19th. Century, marked by ideological confrontations, that the bow-tie appears, serving, according to Honoré de Balzac, as a way to tell a man of genius from a mediocre one.¹

Figure 1 corresponds to a female patient, 17, normal birth, no history of local trauma, presenting in the sternal region, since birth, a keloid lesion which grows in proportion to the patient's stature development. The lesion is approximately 10mm in its widest diameter and it has the likeness of a bow-tie (Figure



FIGURE 1: Keloid similar to a bow-tie

Received on July 04, 2005.

Approved by the Consultive Council and accepted for publication on September 30, 2005.

* Work done at the Dermatology Service of the University Hospital, Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora - UFJF - Juiz de Fora (MG), Brazil.

Conflict of interests: None

¹ Resident at the Dermatology Service of Hospital Universitário da Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora - UFJF - Juiz de Fora (MG), Brazil.

² Resident at the Dermatology Service of Hospital Universitário da Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora - UFJF - Juiz de Fora (MG), Brazil.

³ Ph.D. in Dermatology, UNIFESP. Chair of the Dermatology Service of Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora - UFJF - Juiz de Fora (MG), Brazil.



FIGURE 2: Bow-tie: generally a part of male apparel

2). Fibers in the longer axis are oriented in parallel to the clavicle surface, and the constricted region at the center displays fibers perpendicularly vis-à-vis the long axis, like a perfect bow-tie knot. □

REFERENCES

1. Lerparaver.com [Homepage on the Internet]. Lisboa: Delegação Regional do Sul e Ilhas da Associação dos Cegos e Amblíopes de Portugal, Inc.; c 2000-2005 [updated 2003 Apr; cited 2005 Jul]. *Jornal de Parede* n°7. Available from: <http://www.lerparaver.com/j-parede7.html>
2. Kruzifix's Homepage [Homepage on the Internet]. Switzerland: kruzifix's Association, Inc.; c 1996-2005 [updated 1998; cited 2005 Jul]. *Kruzifix's History of the Bow Tie*. Available from: <http://www.stachelin.ch/bowtie/bowties.html>

MAILING ADDRESS:

Valdilene Loures de Souza
Travessa Regina, 85 - Centro
35300-039 - Caratinga - MG
Tel.:(33) 3321-1867
E-mail: val.loures@ig.com.br