

Images in clinical medicine



A rare image of post syphilis nodulo ulcerative lesions over right foot

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A rare image of post syphilis nodulo ulcerative lesions over right foot

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Syphilis is a bacterial infection caused by *Treponema pallidum*, primarily transmitted through sexual contact. It spreads via direct contact with sores, which are often painless. The disease progresses in stages, each presenting different symptoms. In the primary stage, a characteristic symptom called a *Chancre* (small sore) appears, with some individuals developing a single sore while others may have multiple. Common symptoms include wart-like sores or rashes on the genitals or other parts of the body, with or without pain. This case presented a 54-year-old female with multiple progressive erythematous ulcerative lesions on her right foot, which had been worsening over the past three months, accompanied by itching and a burning sensation. She also reported smaller, similar lesions in the genital area. The patient had a history of syphilis diagnosed nine months earlier.

She underwent treatment with Doxycycline 100 mg twice daily for three months, but had no satisfactory relief. On examination and followed by a history of syphilis, the patient was diagnosed with post-syphilis nodulo-ulcerative lesions over the right foot, as shown in the image. After that, the patient was advised for therapeutic purgation using tablet *Ichhabedi Rasa*, therapeutic cleansing of the vaginal tract using herbal decoction of *Triphala Kwath* and *Panchatikta Ghrita* used for both local application and oral consumption (2 teaspoons on an empty stomach with lukewarm water). Additionally, she was prescribed tablet *Sutshekhara Rasa* (two tablets, three times a day) for one month. The treatment led to a significant reduction in lesion size and overall improvement. The image is useful in differentiating between atopic dermatitis, chromoblastomycosis, eczematous skin disorder, primary inoculation tuberculosis, and nodulo-ulcerative lesion.



Figure 1: post syphilis nodulo ulcerative lesions over right foot