EADV CONGRESS
AMSTERDAM 25-28 SEPTEMBER 2024
EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY & VENEREOLOGY

Abstract N°: 3483

Majocchi Granuloma of the knee : A rare clinical entity

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Introduction & Objectives:

Majocchi's granuloma is a rare fungal infection of the dermis and subcutaneous tissue. The clinical presentation overlap with other skin diseases, such as bacterial infections and inflammatory skin diseases, delaying the correct diagnosis and adequate treatment. We present a case of Majocchi's granuloma on the knee of an immunocompetent patient who was initially treated as psoriasis.

Results:

A 36-year-old woman with no known significant medical history, presented to our dermatological department with a six-month history of a slightly raised, reddish lesion over her right knee accompanied with pruritus. She was diagnosed with psoriasis and was treated with topical corticosteroids and systemic antibiotics for several months without improvement. Clinical examination showed a single erythematous plaque with a discrete circular pattern over the right knee with multiple erythematous scaly follicular papules. The borders of the lesions appeared more intense redness and desquamative. Follicular-centered pustules were present on the surface. Routine blood tests were within normal limits. Direct examination of the scales and the purulent discharge revealed no bacterial infection. Histological examination of a punch biopsy showed cell granulomas with lymphocytes, neutrophils around the follicle and positive spores was stained with Periodis acid-Schiff (PAS) compatible with the diagnosis's of Majocchi's granuloma. The patient was treated with oral terbinafine 250mg/day for 12 weeks aossociated with topical sertaconazole olamine twice daily. The skin lesions improved significantly, and there was no recurrence during follow-up.

Conclusion:

we report an unusual presentation of Majocchi's granuloma in an immunocompetent patient. Fungal infections can be challenging to diagnose. It has a variable presentation ranging from cutaneous lesions to deeper infections. In addition, this case highlights the importance of collecting deep microbiological samples for diagnosis.