GENETICS AND GENODERMATOSES

OSVALDO COSTA ACROKERATOELASTOIDOSIS: CASE REPORT

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Background: Acroceratoelastoidosis is a rare type of palmoplantar keratoderma that was described by the Brazilian dermatologist Osvaldo Costa in 1952. It is characterized by keratotic or translucent papules in the marginal region of hands and feet. The etiology is unknown, similar to the autosomal dominant inheritance, as well as sporadic cases. Given the rarity of this clinical-pathological diagnosis, we present a case, emphasizing the need to provide guidance to these patients on the benignity of the disease and the limitations of the treatment.

Observation: We report a 70 year-old woman, with yellowish, keratotic papules on the palms and soles bilaterally. Asymptomatic lesions were present since she was 30 years of age. She referred similar lesions in 1st and 2nd degree relatives in her family. The picture remained stable despite therapeutic attempts. The differential diagnosis of keratotic papules along the borders of the hands and feet that can be familial includes: acrokeratosis verruciformis of Hopf, degenerative collagenous plaques of the hands, digital papular calcinosis, mosaicacral keratosis, and hereditary papulotranslucent acrokeratoderma. They all exhibit similar clinical findings; however, the histological features aid in their differentiation. The clinical diagnosis was confirmed by the histopathological examination evidencing hyperkeratosis, mild acanthosis and depression in the epidermis associated with the decrease and fragmentation of elastic dermal fibers, called elastorrexe.

Key message: Although the asymptomatic disease can cause significant aesthetic impact, there is no safe treatment to date for this genodermatosis.