



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

A CASE OF PAPULOERYTHRODERMA OF OFUJI IN A 74 YEAR OLD FILIPINO MALE AND REVIEW OF CASE REPORTS AND THERAPY

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Background: Papuloerythroderma of Ofuji (PEO) is a rare skin eruption presenting with multiple erythematous to brown polygonal flat topped papular lesions that usually spare the skin folds known as the 'deck chair sign'. This condition is accompanied by intense chronic pruritus, and marked eosinophilia.

Observation: We report a case of a 74 year old Filipino male, presenting with clinical and histo-pathological features of Papuloerythroderma of Ofuji, not associated with malignancy, who was successfully treated with short course of oral steroid and topical corticosteroid lotion and antihistamine. Patient was treated initially with, Clobetasol propionate 0.05% ointment with plain vaseline applied twice a day over the affected areas for three weeks and antihistamine, cetirizine 10 mg/tablet once a day for pruritus. Oral prednisone was started with 20 mg/day (0.3 mg/kg/day) for two weeks then gradually tapered to 10 mg/day for four weeks; then 5mg/day for another four weeks and 5mg/day alternate for last 4 weeks. Cetirizine 10 mg/tablet once a day was continued for pruritus and emollients were increased to three times a day. There was marked improvement, with decrease in the erythematous coalescing papules and plaques. Pruritus likewise diminished. Monthly follow up for the first three months after remission and every six months thereafter was done to monitor for recurrence. Currently the patient has no new lesions after seven months post treatment.

Key message: When a patient presents with generalized, erythematous, confluent papules sparing the flexural and pressure areas, Papuloerythroderma of Ofuji should be suspected. Search for malignant cells in biopsy and immunohistochemical studies are strongly recommended. Work-up for internal malignancy is warranted for those with older age and palpable lymphadenopathy. The clinical course is prolonged and the possibility of neoplastic development, require periodical examinations, even after cessation of skin changes.

