



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

AN EXCEPTIONAL DIAGNOSIS: PHOTO-INDUCED SWEET'S SYNDROME

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Background: Sweet's syndrome (SS) is a rare inflammatory disease belonging to the group of neutrophilic dermatoses. It can be idiopathic, malignancy-associated or drug-induced. Exceptionally, it can be induced by solar exposure. We report the case of a photo-induced Sweet syndrome.

Observation: A 52-year-old woman was followed for recurrent dermatosis in the summer-spring period. The lesions were located on the back of the hands, the face and the neck, in a context of fever and arthralgia. The dermatological examination revealed erythematous and painful plaques of varying sizes and asymmetric distribution. Biological examinations revealed hyperleucocytosis and autoimmune thyroiditis. Histopathological examination revealed the presence of an inflammatory infiltrate with a predominance of neutrophils in the dermis. The evolution was favorable under prednisone and topical corticosteroids.

Key message: SS is characterized by erythematous, edematous, and painful papules on the upper extremities, face or neck. It is typically accompanied by fever and peripheral neutrophilia. Lesions may appear as a result of minor trauma such as a blood test, a vaccine, a biopsy or after an insect bites (pathergy sign). Patients who have received radiation therapy may have SS lesions at the irradiated sites, as well as during a photo-exposure. Drug-induced SS occurring at the photo-exposed regions has been previously reported. Lesions have also been described at the site of a previous phototoxic reaction. The mechanism could involve either a Koebner phenomenon, classically described in neutrophilic dermatoses, or the direct action of UV-B, which affects neutrophil activation and recruitment. Indeed, two cases of SS photo induced were reported in 2003 by Belhadjali H et al. The first case was photo induced by a sun-exposure during the summer and by a UVA1 photo-test, the second case was not photo-induced by photo-tests, but only photo-aggravated with presence of photosensitivity. Horio reported two cases. The first was aggravated during the summer and the second was photo-induced. The chronology of the lesions in this case and their photo-distributed site favor a photo-induced SS. We intend to support the diagnosis with appropriate photobiological exploration.

