

Skin Involvement in Hodgkin's lymphoma

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1. Clinical Image

Skin involvement is a clearly recognized phenomenon in non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, but it is extremely uncommon in Hodgkin's lymphoma (HL). Various routes of skin involvement may include direct extension from underlying nodes, retrograde lymphatic spread and hematogenous dissemination [1].

Male, 22 years old, presented with a 4-month history of a painless macular skin rash (Figure 1). It had been previously assumed as cellulitis and treated with antibiotics without any improvement. Blood analysis showed leukocytosis (30840/ μ L), erythrocyte sedimentation rate of 83 mm and C-reactive protein of 111.4mg/L (negative if <5). Thoracic tomographic scan revealed a large soft nodal mass in upper-anterior mediastinum with invasion of cervical skin (Figure 2). The mass biopsy demonstrated a nodular sclerosing HL further classified as stage II (lymphomas that involve two or more lymph node regions on the same side of the diaphragm) category A (asymptomatic). He underwent ABVD regimen [Adriamycin 40 mg/m² Day 1 (D1), Day 15 (D15); Bleomycin 10 IU/m² D1, D15; Vinblastine 6 mg/m² D1, D15; and Dacarbazine 375 mg/m² D1, D15] for a total of 4 cycles, followed by radiotherapy with a complete clinical and radiological remission. He remains cancer-free at a follow-up of 1 year.



Figure 1: Thoracic skin rash.



Figure 2: CT scan showing a large soft nodal mass in upper-anterior mediastinum with invasion of cervical skin.

References

1. Smith BD, Wilson LD. Cutaneous lymphomas. *Semin Radiat Oncol.* 2007; 17: 158-68.