IMAGES IN DERMATOLOGY

Subtle Lesions, a Diagnostic Challenge: Localized Syringomas

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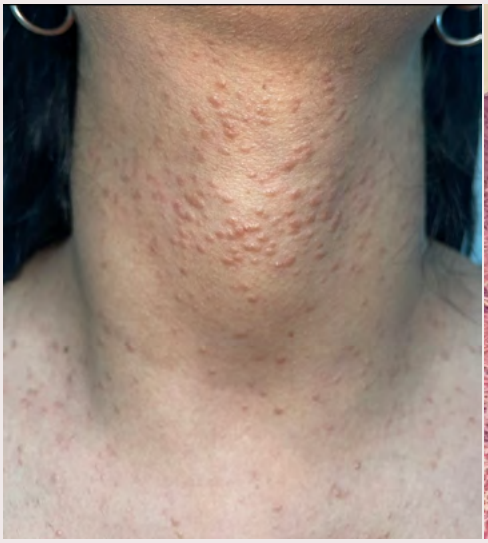

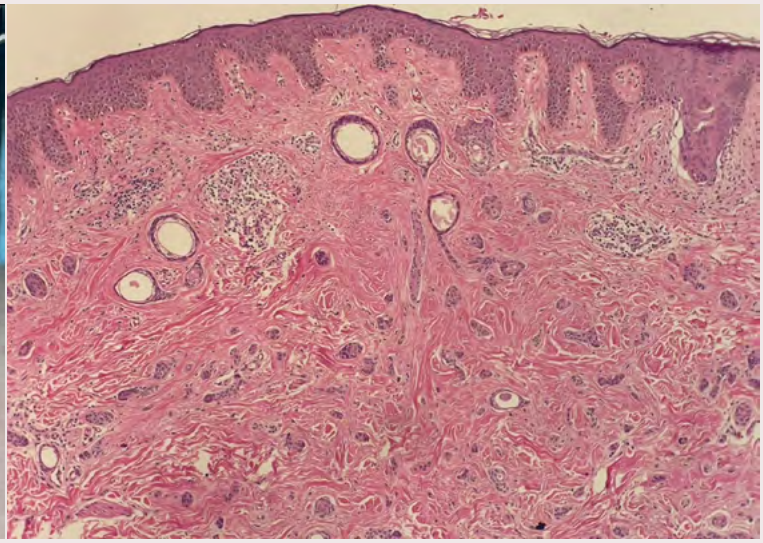

A 25-year-old female with a history of systemic lupus erythematosus and lupus nephritis under active treatment presents with asymptomatic skin lesions on the neck, which began at age 21 with an insidious onset and progressive increase in number. The lesions worsen after sun exposure. Initially treated with benzoyl peroxide due to suspected steroid-induced acne related to her base treatment scheme; however, the lesions persisted without improvement.

Physical examination revealed, isolated, slightly shiny, normochromic papules measuring 2 to 4 mm (Figure 1). The lesions were located exclusively on the anterior neck, extending to the upper chest area, with no tendency to coalesce.

A skin biopsy revealed a tumoral proliferation characterized by small ducts lined with two layers of cuboidal cells, some dilated and containing eosinophilic material. The surrounding fibrous collagen stroma was histologically consistent with a diagnosis of syringomas (Figure 2).

Syringomas are benign tumors originating from the terminal ducts of eccrine glands. They are characterized by solitary, hemispherical or flat lesions of pale

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yellow or brownish color, measuring 1 to 4 mm in diameter, dense, and non-confluent.[1]

These papules mainly affect the eyelids and cheeks of young women but can also appear on the limbs and vulva in some cases.[2] The exact cause remains uncertain, but hormonal imbalances are thought to play a major role, considering their onset in early adulthood.[3]

Syringomas affect approximately 1% of the global population. The four main types include localized, eruptive, Down syndrome-associated, and familial forms.[4]

Histological examination is essential for diagnosis, revealing a circumscribed proliferation of ducts in the superficial dermis formed by two layers of cuboidal cells arranged in a comma shape—known as a tadpole pattern.[5]

INFORMED CONSENT

The patient included in this study signed an informed consent form, approving the use of her images and clinical data exclusively for research and scientific publication purposes. No personal data or identifying photographs have been provided.

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