EDITOrial

Management of autoimmune urticaria
Arun C. Inamadar, Aparna Palit ................................................................. 89

VIEWPOINT

Cosmetic dermatology versus cosmetology: A misnomer in need of urgent correction
Shyam B. Verma, Zoe D. Draelos ................................................................. 92

REVieW Article

Psoriasiform dermatoses
Virendra N. Sehgal, Sunil Dogra, Govind Srivastava, Ashok K. Aggarwal .......... 94

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

A study of allergen-specific IgE antibodies in Indian patients of atopic dermatitis
V. K. Somani .............................................................................................. 100

Chronic idiopathic urticaria: Comparison of clinical features with positive autologous serum skin test
George Mamatha, C. Balachandran, Prabhu Smitha .................................. 105

Autologous serum therapy in chronic urticaria: Old wine in a new bottle
A. K. Bajaj, Abir Saraswat, Amitabh Upadhyay, Rajetha Damisetty, Sandipan Dhar 109

Use of patch testing for identifying allergen causing chronic urticaria
Ashimav Deb Sharma .................................................................................. 114

Vitiligoid lichen sclerosus: A reappraisal
Venkat Ratnam Attili, Sasi Kiran Attili ...................................................... 118
BRIEF REPORTS

Activated charcoal and baking soda to reduce odor associated with extensive blistering disorders
Arun Chakravarthi, C. R. Srinivas, Anil C. Mathew ................................................................. 122

Nevus of Ota: A series of 15 cases
Shanmuga Sekar, Maria Kuruvila, Harsha S. Pai ................................................................. 125

Premature ovarian failure due to cyclophosphamide: A report of four cases in dermatology practice
Vikrant A. Saoji ......................................................................................................................... 128

CASE REPORTS

Hand, foot and mouth disease in Nagpur
Vikrant A. Saoji ......................................................................................................................... 133

Non-familial multiple keratoacanthomas in a 70 year-old long-term non-progressor HIV-seropositive man

Late onset isotretinoin resistant acne conglobata in a patient with acromegaly
Kapil Jain, V. K. Jain, Kamal Aggarwal, Anu Bansal .......................................................... 139

Familial dyskeratotic comedones
M. Sendhil Kumaran, Divya Appachu, Elizabeth Jayaseelan .................................................. 142
Nasal NK/T cell lymphoma presenting as a lethal midline granuloma
Vandana Mehta, C. Balachandran, Sudha Bhat, V. Geetha, Donald Fernandes .............. 145

Childhood sclerodermatomyositis with generalized morphea
Girishkumar R. Ambade, Rachita S. Dhurat, Nitin Lade, Hemangi R. Jerajani............. 148

Subcutaneous panniculitis-like T-cell cutaneous lymphoma
Avninder Singh, Joginder Kumar, Sujala Kapur, V. Ramesh ........................................... 151

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Using a submersible pump to clean large areas of the body with antiseptics
C. R. Srinivas .......................................................................................................................... 154

Peutz-Jeghers syndrome with prominent palmoplantar pigmentation

Stratum corneum findings as clues to histological diagnosis of pityriasis lichenoides chronica
Rajiv Joshi ................................................................................................................................ 156

Author’s reply
S. Pradeep Nair ..................................................................................................................... 157

Omalizumab in severe chronic urticaria
K. V. Godse .......................................................................................................................... 157

Hypothesis: The potential utility of topical eflornithine against cutaneous leishmaniasis
M. R. Namazi .......................................................................................................................... 158

Nodular melanoma in a skin graft site scar
A. Gnaneshwar Rao, Kamal K. Jhamnani, Chandana Konda ............................................. 159
Palatal involvement in lepromatous leprosy
A. Gnaneshwar Rao, Chandana Konda, Kamal Jhamnani .......................................................... 161

Unilateral nevoid telangiectasia with no estrogen and progesterone receptors in a pediatric patient
F. Sule Afsar, Ragip Ortaç, Gulden Diniz ...................................................................................... 163

Eruptive lichen planus in a child with celiac disease
Dipankar De, Amrinder J. Kanwar ..................................................................................................... 164

Xerosis and pityriasis alba-like changes associated with zonisamide
Feroze Kaliyadan, Jayasree Manoj, S. Venkitakrishnan .................................................................. 165

Treatment of actinomycetoma with combination of rifampicin and co-trimoxazole
Rajiv Joshi ........................................................................................................................................ 166

Author’s reply

Vitiligo, psoriasis and imiquimod: Fitting all into the same pathway
Bell Raj Eapen .................................................................................................................................. 169

Author’s reply
Engin Şenel, Deniz Seçkin .................................................................................................................. 169

Multiple dermatofibromas on face treated with carbon dioxide laser: The importance of laser parameters
Kabir Sardana, Vijay K. Garg ............................................................................................................. 170

Author’s reply

Alopecia areata progressing to totalis/universalis in non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (type II): Failure of dexamethasone-cyclophosphamide pulse therapy
Virendra N. Sehgal, Sambit N. Bhattacharya, Sonal Sharma, Govind Srivastava, Ashok K. Aggarwal .................................................................................. 171

Subungual exostosis
Kamal Aggarwal, Sanjeev Gupta, Vijay Kumar Jain, Amit Mital, Sunita Gupta .................................. 173
**Clinicohistopathological correlation of leprosy**  
Amrish N. Pandya, Hemali J. Tailor ................................................................. 174

**RESIDENT’S PAGE**

Dermatographism  
Dipti Bhute, Bhavana Doshi, Sushil Pande, Sunanda Mahajan, Vidya Kharkar ................................................................. 177

**FOCUS**

Mycophenolate mofetil  
Amar Surjushe, D. G. Saple ............................................................................. 180

**QUIZ**

Multiple papules on the vulva  
G. Raghu Rama Rao, R. Radha Rani, A. Amareswar, P. V. Krishnam  
Raju, P. Raja Kumari, Y. Hari Kishan Kumar ..................................................... 185

**E-IJDVL**

Net Study  
Oral isotretinoin is as effective as a combination of oral isotretinoin and topical anti-acne agents in nodulocystic acne  
Rajeev Dhir, Neetu P. Gehi, Reetu Agarwal, Yuvraj E. More ....................................... 187

Net Case  
Cutaneous diphtheria masquerading as a sexually transmitted disease  
T. P. Vetrichevvel, Gajanan A. Pise, Kishan Kumar Agrawal,  
Devinder Mohan Thappa .................................................................................... 187

Net Letters  
Patch test in Behcet’s disease  
Ülker Gül, Müzeyyen Gönül, Seray Külçü Çakmak, Arzu Kılç ...................................... 187

Cerebriform elephantiasis of the vulva following tuberculous lymphadenitis  
Surajit Nayak, Basanti Acharjya, Basanti Devi, Satyadarshi Pattnaik,  
Manoj Kumar Patra .......................................................................................... 188

Net Quiz  
Vesicles on the tongue  
Saurabh Agarwal, Krishna Gopal, Binay Kumar .......................................................... 188

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May increase the leukocyte-melanocyte attachment and result in melanocyte damage in vitiligo. This IL-6-induced ICAM-1 expression may also be the triggering factor in imiquimod-induced vitiligo-like depigmentation. It is also possible that imiquimod-induced production of TNF-α and IFN-α plays a role in auto-destruction of melanocytes by enhancing the release of nitric oxide.

In summary, considering the mechanisms of actions of imiquimod, vitiligo-like depigmentation is not a surprising adverse effect of this drug.

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REFERENCES


Multiple dermatofibromas on face treated with carbon dioxide laser: The importance of laser parameters

Sir,

Dermatofibroma (DF) is one of the common dermatologic diseases treated by practicing dermatologists.[1] The use of carbon dioxide laser has emerged as an effective option for treatment of numerous epidermal and dermal dermatological lesions, including benign and malignant growths, keloids, vascular deformities, warts and tattoos.[2] The focus has now shifted from continuous wave (CW) to super-pulse (SP) and now ultrapulse (UP) mode.[3] The latter mode combines efficacy and minimal tissue damage and is preferred by most laser surgeons worldwide.[3]

Nowadays, it is routine to use a two-step procedure, first to debulk the tissue with CW mode and then to destroy the base with UP mode, with the end-point varying depending on the lesion to be treated.[3] This use of UP mode ensures better cosmesis.[3] Notwithstanding the high recurrence that is the norm in similar conditions with fibroblastic proliferation like keloids,[3] it is heartening to note the decent results obtained by the authors.[4] But, we were surprised to note that no mention was made of a previous study on 18 patients (20 lesions) with PDL where 15 of 20 lesions (75%) responded.[3] With so little on the subject, a proper perspective was warranted in the article on whether PDL is superior to CO₂ or not.

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