



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

CUTANEOUS LOXOSCELISM- UNUSUAL CAUSE OF NECROTIC SKIN ULCERATION

Raghavendra Rao⁽¹⁾ - Sandhiya Ramesh⁽¹⁾

Kasturba Medical College, Department Of Dermatology, Manipal Academy Of Higher Education, Manipal, Manipal, India⁽¹⁾

Background: Cutaneous Loxoscelism (CL) peculiar reaction pattern caused by spiders of family loxoscelidae. The diagnosis of loxoscelism is difficult and rarely based on the identification of the spider. A high degree of suspicion along with history of bite and clinical findings facilitate the diagnosis of CL. Here, we report two cases of loxoscelism.

Observation: Case 1: A 35-yr-old female presented with a painful indurated plaque over the lower abdomen of 10 days duration. She was bitten by a brown spider which was present on the inner aspect of her garment. She initially noticed a small red papule which progressed into a blister within a span of 24 hours. Examination revealed an indurated, tender plaque with central blackish eschar and surrounding erythema. She was treated conservatively with oral antibiotics and wound dressing

Case 2: A 50- yr-old male presented with a painful dark lesions over his left infraorbital region for a period of 6 days. He gave a history of spider bite 6 days ago following which he developed a red lesion that progressively became dark. It was associated with burning pain and fever. Examination revealed an erythematous indurated diffuse swelling over the left side of the face with a black eschar in the centre. Since he refused wound debridement, he was managed conservatively with oral antibiotics, analgesics, and topical antibiotics. The eschar fell in 3 weeks' time and ulcer healed leaving behind a scar over 60 days.

Key message: Cutaneous reactions due to spider have rarely sought the attention in Dermatology literature. Dermatologists should consider spider bite as a possible cause of pustular and necrotic lesions of uncertain origin.

