

Images/Instrument in Dermatology/Dermatosurgery

Hidrotic ectodermal dysplasia: A classical case

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An 18-year-old girl presented with hair loss, thick nails, and hyperkeratotic plaques on the soles since childhood. There was no positive family history. On examination, the hair on the scalp, eyebrow, eyelashes, and body was thin, sparse, and brittle [Figure 1a and b]. The palms were normal, and the soles had circumscribed keratoderma plaques at pressure points on the sole [Figure 1c and d]. Nails were thick, brittle, and yellowish in color [Figure 1e and f]. Teeth and

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Figure 1: (a and b) Brittle, sparse, hair on scalp, eyebrow, and eyelash with normal shape of nose, (c and d) palms normal and circumscribed keratoderma in soles at pressure points, and (e and f) thick, brittle, yellow to brown nails.

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nose were normal, and there was normal sweating. Based on these clinical findings, hidrotic ectodermal dysplasia (HED) was diagnosed in our case.

Ectodermal dysplasia is a rare genetic disorder that affects at least two ectodermal derivatives, including hair, teeth, nails, and some glands.^[1] The cardinal symptoms of HED (Clouston syndrome) include nail dystrophy, hair loss (partial to complete baldness), and palmoplantar hyperkeratosis with normal teeth and sweating.^[2] Its differential diagnosis is Pachyonychia congenita, which is distinguished by thick dystrophic discolored nails with subungual hyperkeratosis, painful palmoplantar keratoderma on the hands and feet, oral leukokeratosis, follicular keratosis, cysts, and hair loss.

Ethical approval: The Institutional Review Board approval is not required.

Declaration of patient consent: The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form, the patients have given their consent for their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand

that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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