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Image in rheumatology

Gout furunculosis

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Fig. 1.

These are typical small subcutaneous tophi, spread over the upper and lower arms (Fig. 1). These tophi presented here are located in the knee region. This elderly woman had chronic kidney disease (CKD) stage 4, and received high dose furosemide for CKD, heart failure and hypertension. Serum urate was 11.0 mg/dL. She denied any joint attack but noticed these “little whitish bumps”, sometimes itchy, on/in her skin over the last years.

Of importance, as quoted by the new ACR/EULAR recommendations, it is easy to make a formal diagnosis of urate crystal deposits by sampling some crystals to be readily identified under light microscopy [1].

Reference

- [1] Neogi T, Jansen TL, Dalbeth N, et al. 2015 Gout classification criteria: an American College of Rheumatology/European League Against Rheumatism collaborative initiative. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2015;74:1789–98.

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