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CME examination

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Mui UN, Haley CT, Vangipuram R, Tying SK. J Am Acad Dermatol 2019;81:23-41.

Directions for questions 1-4: Choose the single best response.

A 35-year-old woman presents to the clinic for the evaluation of a rash on her legs and white patches in her mouth. The physical examination reveals purple, flat-topped, polygon-shaped plaques that are intensely pruritic and white, lace-like patches on the buccal mucosa. The lesions had been present for a few months without any significant changes. A punch biopsy specimen was obtained that revealed a “saw-tooth” pattern of epidermal hyperplasia with acanthosis and parakeratosis.

1. What could be the next step after confirming the skin diagnosis?
 - a. Order human T-lymphotrophic virus 1 DNA by polymerase chain reaction
 - b. Order a viral hepatitis panel
 - c. Perform direct immunofluorescence
 - d. Obtain HIV antibody testing
 - e. Order immunohistochemical analysis for Epstein–Barr virus
2. What is the recommended first-line treatment for this condition?
 - a. Intralesional corticosteroids
 - b. Systemic corticosteroids
 - c. High-potency topical corticosteroids
 - d. Topical calcineurin inhibitors
 - e. Observation until spontaneous resolution

A 69-year-old Japanese man presents to the emergency room complaining of nausea, abdominal pain, and a 5-day history of generalized weakness. The family reports that the patient had become irritable with abnormal behavior over the last 2 days. On examination, the patient has severe anorexia, generalized lymphadenopathy, hepatosplenomegaly, hyperpigmented patches on the chest, and ulcerated nodules on the arms and abdomen. He was tachypneic, tachycardic, and hypertensive. He was found to have a serum calcium level of 15 mg/dL and low parathyroid hormone levels. A malignancy-associated hypercalcemia is suspected and workup for malignancy was initiated. His peripheral smear showed T lymphocytes with multilobulated nuclei exhibiting a “flower” appearance.

3. Which viral agent is associated with this malignancy?
 - a. Human T-lymphotrophic virus 1
 - b. Epstein–Barr virus
 - c. Hepatitis B virus
 - d. Hepatitis C virus
 - e. Human herpesvirus-8
4. What is the best next step in the treatment of this condition?
 - a. Interferon
 - b. Zidovudine
 - c. Radiotherapy
 - d. Allogeneic stem cell transplant
 - e. Systemic chemotherapy