
NOVEMBER IOTADERMA (#309)

All of us have done things in practice and at home on a whim. Do you happen to know what the **WHIM** syndrome is, and what its easily observable and common dermatologic finding is?

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Answer will appear in the *JAAD* Online section of the December issue of the Journal.

OCTOBER IOTADERMA (#308)

Question: We all are familiar with the whitish, often premalignant, patches called leukoplakia located on the oral mucosa. Do you know what malakoplakia is?

Answer: Malakoplakia is an uncommon granulomatous condition thought to be the result of inadequate destruction of bacteria by macrophages.¹ It is usually found in the genitourinary system but can be seen in other organs. Cases of skin involvement have periodically been reported, often in the perianal and genital regions of immunocompromised patients, but it has also been recognized in other skin sites and in normal individuals.¹⁻⁵ The dermatologic manifestations can be protean and painful, and the diagnosis requires a high index of clinical suspicion coupled with a biopsy. The latter reveals pathognomonic histiocytic basophilic inclusions (highlighted by a number of stains including Periodic acid–Schiff or von Kossa) called Michaelis-Gutmann bodies.⁵ These are thought to represent calcium/iron deposits from residual organisms. Coliform bacteria are most commonly cultured, and therapy consists of at least a month's worth of broad spectrum drugs such as the fluoroquinolones or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole. Wide surgical removal has also been used successfully.^{1,2} Malignant transformation has never been documented.

REFERENCES

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