

Clinical image

Pyoderma gangrenosum in a patient with rheumatoid arthritis

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This is the case of a 49-year-old male patient with a documented history of seronegative rheumatoid arthritis (RA) who presented with recurrent ulcerative skin lesions affecting the lower limbs and trunk over a duration of three months. The lesions initially manifested as tender erythematous or violaceous papules that rapidly progressed to purulent necrotic ulcers characterized by ragged edematous borders, as depicted in the accompanying image. Histopathological examination revealed neutrophilic infiltrates and small abscesses, confirming the clinical impression of pyoderma gangrenosum (PG).

Typically, PG commences as a single painful lesion, predominantly located on the lower extremities [1]. The Koebner phenomenon and pathergy reaction are hallmark features of the condition. PG is associated with both seronegative and seropositive forms of RA [2]. The occurrence of chronic relapsing lesions in atypical locations, such as the face and upper extremities, may suggest the

presence of other underlying conditions, including inflammatory bowel disease or hematological disorders [3]. Our patient was effectively treated with adalimumab.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors participated in manuscript preparation.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All authors declare no conflict of interest

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