LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"Herpetiform Eruption with Leukocytoclasis" = Sweet's Syndrome?

We read with interest the report by C. Ferrandiz et al. (1). We suggest that the patients reported had in reality Sweet's Syndrome, since they met several criteria for this condition. In their discussion, the authors ruled out this diagnosis, in view of the presence of bullous lesions with histological evidence of epidermal abnormalities, and the absence of peripheral leukocytosis.

Recently we reviewed the literature on Sweet's Syndrome (2, 3) and realized that bullous lesions in Sweet's Syndrome are not uncommon. This clinical picture has been observed by ourselves and ten other authors. Histological epidermal lesions as well have also been observed (4). Furthermore the most reliable laboratory finding is not peripheral leukocytosis (present only in 67% of the cases) but undoubtedly the elevated sedimentation rate (observed in 95% of the cases) and present in the 6 cases of C. Ferrandiz et al. (1).

All these features are in favour of the diagnosis of Sweet's Syndrome: five females and only one male patient had very typically located pseudovesicular cutaneous manifestations; all presented prodromal symptoms and the histological similarity to Sweet's Syndrome is very striking. Finally, the dose of steroids given in the 2 cases was not sufficiently high: Ferrandiz et al. (1) should have tried potassium iodide, as Sweet's Syndrome responds dramatically to this drug (3, 5).

REFERENCES


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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 4th Joint Meeting of E.S.D.R. and S.I.D., April 27-May 1, 1983. The 4th Joint Meeting of the European Society for Dermatological Research (E.S.D.R.) and The Society for Investigative Dermatology, Inc. (S.I.D.) will be held at the Capital Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C., USA, April 27 to May 1, 1983.

The Programme will include 250 presentations, 16 workshops and 3 special lectures. Group travel discount fares from Europe will be offered.

Attendance will be open to all members, contributors and guests. Abstracts should be submitted on the official forms. All abstracts will be considered by the ESDR-SID Joint Programme Committee.

The deadline for submission is December 1, 1982. Abstract forms can be obtained from: Herbert Höngsman, M.D., Secretary, E.S.D.R., Department of Dermatology (1), University of Vienna, Alserstrasse 4, A-1090 Vienna, Austria, or Kirk D. Wuepper, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer, 14435 S.W. Uplands Dr., Lake Oswego, Ore. 97034, USA.

Ninth Annual Winter Skin Seminar, February 13-18, 1983, will be held at The Given Institute of Pathobiology, Aspen, Colorado.