Recurrent painful panniculitis: Erythema induratum

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Erythema induratum is the presentation of mixed septal and lobular granulomatous panniculitis, with or without vasculitis. It usually affects females in their 3rd to 4th decade and has a predilection for calf muscle area. The disease appears as recurrent, painful, refractory lesions, which may (Bazin’s type) or may not be (Whitfield’s type) associated with tuberculosis. The figure 1 shows the development of painful nodules with ulceration on the posterior aspect of leg (calf muscle region) in a 32-year-old lactating female. Findings of skin biopsy (Fig.2) were also consistent for erythema induratum (nodular vasculitis). Additional workup did not indicate any other conditions including latent tuberculosis.¹ ²

Fig 1: Healed lesions on the posterior aspect of leg

Fig 2: Skin biopsy (subcutaneous fat): a- Inflammation of fat lobules; b- Inflammation of septae; c- Inflammation of vessel walls
Competing interests
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Citation

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