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An Unusual Case of Peripheral T-cell Lymphoma

V. Broshtilova[1], M. Gantcheva[2]

[1]Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University, Sofia, Bulgaria
[2]Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

A 24-year-old woman presented with 2-year history of erythematous patches, papules and plaques on her trunk and extremities. Skin lesions were unpainful, slightly itchy, and showed tendency to resolve spontaneously. Medium to large atypical lymphoid cells with focal epidermotropism were seen on routine histology. Immunophenotyping revealed CD2+, CD3+, CD5+ and partly CD4+, PD-1+, Bcl-6+, CXCL-13+, βF1+. TCR-gamma, TIA-1, Granzyme B, CD8 were negative. Only few cells stained positive for CD56 and CD30. This constellation was more suggestive of peripheral T-cell lymphoma, not otherwise specified (PTCL/NOS). The lack of negative prognostic factors such as multifocal skin involvement with ulceration, concurrent extracutaneous disease, age older than 70 years and predominantly large cell morphology favor the diagnosis of atypical immunohistochemical variant of mycosis fungoides (MF). PTCL/NOS are extremely rare cases with bad prognosis and rapid fatal outcome, which must always be ruled out from all cases of MF by complete work-up and accurate clinical history.

Key words: mycosis fungoides, peripheral T-cell lymphoma, not otherwise specified.