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Morphological Characterization of Erythrodermic Mycosis Fungoides

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Abstract

Mycosis fungoides (MF) is the most common variant of primary cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL). CTCLs constitute 65% of all cutaneous lymphoid malignancies, of which 50% are patients with MF. The erythrodermic variant of MF, a malignancy of mature, skin homing, clonal T lymphocytes, is a very rare clinical sub type that usually presents in mid- to late adulthood. We report a case of a 70-year-old man with intractable progressive erythroderma of a 2 year-duration, accompanied by severe persistent pruritus. Upon histological and immunohistochemical diagnosis, the most provocative challenge was ruling out leukemization confirming Sezary syndrome. A short critical overview of literature sources disputing this rightful verification is herein highlighted.

Key words: mycosis fungoides, erythroderma, Sezary syndrome