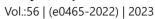


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## **Images in Infectious Diseases**

# **Erythema induratum of Bazin**

### Nurimar Conceição Fernandes[1] o and Ana Paula Hortêncio[2] o

[1]. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Hospital Universitário Clementino Fraga Filho, Serviço de Dermatologia, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil. [2]. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Hospital Universitário Clementino Fraga Filho, Serviço de Dermatologia, Programa de Residência Médica em Dermatologia, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil.

Here we present the case of a 70-year-old female born in Rio de Janeiro with a histopathological clinical diagnosis made September, 2018, of non-endemic pemphigus foliaceus. Treatment with prednisone (1mg/kg/day) with remission. In 2021, asymptomatic ulcers appeared on the patient's right lower limb in the areas indurated due to panniculitis (Figures 1, 2). Clinical-epidemiological data of age, gender, venous insufficiency, obesity, and immunodepression supported the diagnosis of erythema induratum of Bazin (EIB).

A fragment of ulcer biopsy in the histopathology showed a granulomatous dermohypodermitis with tissue necrosis and the presence of alcohol-acid resistant bacilli (AARB) by WADE stain and a bacilloscopy negative for AARB by Ziehl-Nielsen stain. The culture result was negative for mycobacteria; however, an ulcer swab for GenExpert detected Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

EIB affects mainly middle-aged obese women that have venous insufficiency. Recurrent, violaceous, ulcerated, and painful nodules on the calves are the cutaneous manifestations<sup>1,2</sup>. The association with tuberculous infection has been demonstrated by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification for M. tuberculosis DNA in skin biopsy specimens<sup>1,2</sup>.

The GenExpert® MTB/RIF test is useful to distinguish tuberculosis from infections with atypical Mycobacterium. A positive result does not necessarily indicate the presence of viable organisms. In cutaneous tuberculosis, the specificity/sensitivity in the different tests are as follows: PCT GenExpert (98.4%/69%), culture (98%/23%), bacilloscopy (100%/14%)3.

Misdiagnosis of EIB in daily practice is likely, as cutaneous tuberculosis can mimick several dermatoses. EIB may need longer treatment periods, mainly in cases of recurrent episodes<sup>2</sup>.



FIGURE 1: Ulcers with well-defined edges and surrounding erythema, covered by fibrin on the lower leg.

Corresponding author: Nurimar Conceição Fernandes. e-mail: nurimarfernandes@terra.com.br

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**FIGURE 2:** Clean ulcers over indurated plaques after antibiotic therapy on the lower limb

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