Female patient 63 years old who was hospitalized due to erythroderma exfoliative (Fig. 1) after taking ciprofloxacin by urinary tract infection, 4 weeks later we began to observe the detachment of the finger and toenails from the proximal nail fold predominantly on the thumbs (Fig. 2), and the diagnosis of onychomadesis was done. Nail diseases are common but not all people and doctors know about nail changes due to drug reaction or systemic diseases. The present case shows the normal evolution of the nails after an injury due to drug reaction like erythroderma exfoliative.

The study of nail abnormalities is an important research area on actuality, due to they constitute around 5% to 10% of all dermatological diseases [1]. The onychomadesis is an ungual disease which consists in a separation of the nail plate from the matrix [1,2]. It can occur on fingernails or toenails [3]. At first, a cleavage appears under the proximal portion of the nail, followed by the disappearance of the juxta matrizial portion of the nail surface. In latent onychomadesis, the nail plate shows a transverse split (Beau lines) due to the transient complete inhibition of the nail growth, for at least 1-2 weeks [3,4]. Professionals describe onychomadesis like a severe form of Beau lines, and it may result in shedding of the nail [5]. This disease can be hereditary, acquired or traumatic (Fig. 3 a - c) [1,6]. It usually results from serious generalized diseases (Fig. 4), bullous dermatoses (Fig.5), hand, foot and mouth disease, drug reactions (Fig. 6 a, b), severe psychological stress, or it may be idiopathic (Fig. 7 a, b) [4]. Onychomadesis also has been related with pyogenic granuloma and may be consequence of mid nerve injury. It was observed after cast immobilization [2]. Recently, onychomadesis has been associated with the use of valproic acid, azithromycin [4], penicillin, retinoids [7], and carbamazepin [4,7]. Some chemotherapy or X-ray treatments for cancer may also cause this condition [3,4,7]. It is necessary to always take good care to avoid injury or breaking the nail plate and the cuticle. Therapy is intended to treat the underlying disease, this will allow normal nail plate regeneration with eventual growing of the affected areas [3,6]. It is contraindicated apply polish over the defect in the plate, as this will seal in any infective organisms that may be present, thus enhancing the possibility of further infection and injury to the matrix [3].
Figure 3 a,b,c. Onychomadesis due to major trauma.

Figure 4. Onychomadesis due to psoriasic erythroderma.

Figure 5. Bullous pemphigoid cause of onychomadesis.

Figure 6 a,b. Onychomadesis due to drug reaction carbamazepin and cytostatics drug.
REFERENCES


Figure 7. Idiopathic causes of onychomadesis.