

# Atypical chicken pox infection

Selma El Kadiri, Hanane Bay Bay, Rhizlane Chaoui, Zakia Douhi, Sara Elloudi, Fatima Zahra Mernissi

Department of Dermatology, CHU Hassan II, Fez, Morocco

**Corresponding author:** Dr. Selma El Kadiri, E-mail: elkadiri-s@hotmail.com

Sir,

Chickenpox infection is a viral benign and very contagious infection in children, caused by the varicella-zoster virus. Eruption appears first on the scalp and face, then spreads to the trunk and, later, to the extremities with respect for the palms and soles [1].

We report a case of chickenpox reaching in a child with a perineal papular-vesicular rash.

We report a case of 3-years -old girl who presented umbilicated papulo-vesicles surrounded by an erythematous border on the vulva and buttocks and evolving for 24 hours without associated fever (Figs. 1a and 1b) compatible with the diagnosis of Chickenpox. After forty-eight hours, a vesicular exanthema of classical varicella distribution appeared. The follow-up was favorable in two weeks.

## DISCUSSION

We report a case of an acute perineal pruriginous papular-vesicular rash corresponding to the mode of onset of chickenpox. Only one case of chickenpox with a perineal onset has been cited in the literature by Fischer and al. in their series of 130 cases of vulvar pathologies in prepubertal girls [2]. Recently 3 cases of perineal chickenpox were reported in France [3]. In one hand, we can explain this mode of perineal beginning by a Koebner phenomenon induced by the layers exacerbated by, maceration. In an other hand, this mode of onset can be explained by the fact that these patients are a rarely seen at a very early stage or by absence of systematic examination of genital area [3].



**Figures 1:** (a and b) Papulo-vesicular eruption in vulva and perianal area.

This atypical localization can be misdiagnosed as Hand- Foot-and-Mouth disease.

## CONCLUSION

Acute perineal papular-vesicular lesions should suggest chickenpox at an early stage.

## Consent

The examination of the patient was conducted according to the Declaration of Helsinki principles.

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their consent for his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

## REFERENCES

1. CEDEF: Infections à herpès virus de l'enfant et de l'adulte immunocompétents: varicelle et zona. *Ann Dermatol Venerol*.

**How to cite this article:** El Kadiri S, Bay Bay H, Chaoui R, Douhi Z, Elloudi S, Mernissi FZ. Atypical chicken pox infection. *Our Dermatol Online*. 2020;11(e):e39.1-e39.2.

**Submission:** 06.03.2020; **Acceptance:** 05.04.2020

**DOI:**10.7241/ourd.2020e.39

2012;139:A22-8.

2. Fischer G, Rogers M. Vulvar disease in children: a clinical audit of 130 cases. *Pediatr Dermatol.* 2000;17:1-6.
3. Bekkali N. Varicelle débutant par des lésions périnéales: 3 cas. *Ann Dermatol Vénéreol.* 2020;147:52-4.

Copyright by Selma El Kadiri, et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.  
**Source of Support:** Nil, **Conflict of Interest:** None declared.