Widespread miliaria crystallina in intensive care unit

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A 56 years old, with a history of type 2 diabetes, was admitted in the intensive care unit for the management of stage E pancreatitis. She was febrile, unconscious, ventilated and had a gastric feeding tube. She was put on broad spectrum antibiotic therapy for extensive extrapancreatic fluid collections. As her fever began to break, her skin erupted with widespread vesicles. We found clear, waterdrop-like vesicles, 1–3 mm in size, scattered across her chest and shoulders, crossing dermatomes and sparing mucosae. These findings were consistent with miliaria crystallina. Unfortunately, the patient died few days later from septic shock.

Miliaria crystallina is a transient occlusive sweat gland disorder resulting in the leakage and retention of sweat into the epidermis [1]. Small 1- to 2-mm flaccid (MC) vesicles that rupture easily characterize MC. This skin condition resolves spontaneously and requires no treatment [2].

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 The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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