



Vulva vaginal edema as a poor prognostic factor in diffuse lupus nephritis

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Key point

It is possible that, vulva vaginal edema is due to a diffuse thrombotic disorder and is an ominous sign in lupus nephritis patients.

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is an autoimmune disease and principally affects women in their reproductive years. Kidney involvement named as lupus nephritis is one of the most frequent and serious manifestations of this disease (1-3). In a period of 10-year following up of the patients with lupus patients, I had 20 patients with diffuse proliferative lupus nephritis and vulva vaginal edema that, all of them died. Ten patients had discontinued their medication for more than 6 months. Four patients recently diagnosed with diffuse lupus nephritis and finally, six patients despite drug administration for lupus had flare and found having vulva vaginal edema. All of these patients were treated with three consequent pulses of methylprednisolone sodium succinate and monthly cyclophosphamide pulse. All patients were treated with prednisolone 1 mg/kg and hydroxychloroquine sulfate, anti-hypertensive drugs after mentioned pulse therapy. Despite above treatments, vulva vaginal edema remained without any amelioration. All of these patients died over a period of 1 to 6 months. It seems vulva

vaginal edema is due to a diffuse thrombotic disorder and is an ominous and dangerous sign.

Author's contribution

MK is the single author of the manuscript.

Conflicts of interest

The author declared no competing interests.

Ethical considerations

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