



ERYSIPELAS – CASE STUDY

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INTRODUCTION :

Erysipelas is a skin infection involving the dermis layer of the skin, but it may also extend to the superficial cutaneous lymphatics. It is characterized by an area of erythema that is well -demarcated, raised and often affects the lower extremities, with the face being the second most commonly affected site. Erysipelas is also known as “St. Antony’s fire” due to its intense fiery rash. Erysipelas can be serious but rarely fatal.it has a rapid unfavorable response antibiotics. The most common causes is group A streptococci.

CASE PRESENTATION :

- A 77 years old man came to outpatient department with the complaints of painful reddish lesion over left leg since 5 days and swelling over the left leg for the past 5 days. the patient vitals are normal at OPD. He is hypertensive for past 10 years and on regular medication. The patient had chronic eczema over left leg and took treatment on and off for the same.
- On examination patient has itchy pus-filled lesion over lateral aspect of left leg and inguinal lymphadenopathy. the lesion which is reddish and fluid filled associated with oozing and discharge. the patient has well defined erythematous plaque over left lower lymph which is extending from medial aspect of ankle to knee.



INVESTIGATION

- Pus culture and sensitivity
- Sr. glucose:112mg/dl
- Sr. electrolyte : Na:-139mmol/l, K+:-4.6mmol/l, Cl:-102mmol/l
- Echocardiogram reveals left ventricular hypertrophy
- Urine routine

DIAGNOSIS

- Erysipelas with systemic hypertension

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

- Antibiotics -Inj.augmentin and Inj.amikacin, Fucidin cream.
- Antifungal -onabet 2% cream
- Analgesics and anti-inflammatory – Tab.zerodol SP
- Proton pump inhibitor -Tab.rabeprazole
- Saline soak
- Limb elevation
- Monitoring of urine output

OUTCOME

Symptoms like pain and swelling reduced after 48 hours.

NURSING CARE PLAN**Impaired skin integrity related to inflammation of dermis and swelling**

- ✓ Assess the skin
- ✓ Keep the skin clean and dry
- ✓ Prevent shearing or further irritation
- ✓ Elevate the extremity
- ✓ Irrigation with saline

Pain related to erythematous lesion over dermis layer

- ✓ Assess the pain score
- ✓ Monitor vitals
- ✓ Provide comfort and diversional therapies
- ✓ Provide adequate rest
- ✓ Administer medication as per prescription

CONCLUSION :

Erysipelas is caused by group A streptococci. this condition may affect both children and adults the symptoms of the disease include skin score with a sharp border. As the infection spreads, the skin is painful, very red, swollen and warm. Blisters on the skin can form with proper treatment, the outcome is good.

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