

- 2 Wu Z, McGoogan JM. Characteristics of and important lessons from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in China: summary of a report of 72 314 cases from the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. *JAMA* 2020.
- 3 Han Q, Lin Q, Ni Z, You L. Uncertainties about the transmission routes of 2019 novel coronavirus. *Influenza Other Respir Viruses* 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1111/irv.12735>
- 4 Li Q, Guan X, Wu P *et al*. Early transmission dynamics in Wuhan, China, of novel coronavirus-infected pneumonia. *N Engl J Med* 2020; **382**: 1199–1207. <https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2001316>
- 5 Kampf G, Todt D, Pfaender S, Steinmann E. Persistence of coronaviruses on inanimate surfaces and its inactivation with biocidal agents. *J Hosp Infect* 2020; **104**: 246–251. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhin.2020.01.022>
- 6 Van Doremalen N, Bushmaker T, Morris DH *et al*. Aerosol and surface stability of SARS-CoV-2 as compared with SARS-CoV-1. *N Engl J Med* 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMc2004973>
- 7 Zou L, Ruan F, Huang M *et al*. SARS-CoV-2 viral load in upper respiratory specimens of infected patients. *N Engl J Med* 2020; **382**: 1177–1179.
- 8 World Health Organization. Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19-7 March 2020. URL <https://www.who.int/publications-detail/critical-preparedness-readiness-and-response-actions-for-covid-19> (last accessed: 19 March 2020).
- 9 Jakhar D, Grover C. Innovative modification of the USB dermatoscope for mucoscopy. *J Am Acad Dermatol* 2018; **78**: e3–e4.
- 10 Kaliyadan F, Jayshree P. Preventing cross-infection during polarized dermatoscopy using hand held dermatoscope. *Indian Dermatol Online J* 2020; **11**: 282–283.

DOI: 10.1111/jdv.16412

Urticarial eruption in COVID-19 infection

Editor

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is spreading quickly across the world, until a pandemic condition was announced by the WHO on March.^{1,2} Many clinical manifestations of this virus are described, and new symptoms are emerging particularly outside respiratory sphere, such as anosmia and ageusia³ which are recent ORL published symptoms. About skin manifestation, few cases of rashes on patients with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were described in two Chinese cohorts.^{4,5}

We read with great interest the recent publication of S.RECALCATI⁶ who explores the cutaneous manifestations in hospitalized COVID-19 patients in a hospital in Italy. The author remarks cutaneous manifestation in 20.4% of patients, some of them on the onset of disease and the other after the hospitalization, with three cases of widespread urticaria.

As him, we observed some skin manifestations in COVID-19-infected patients and we write this letter in order to add a new

element to these observations: one case of appearance of urticarial eruption before the onset of any fever or respiratory symptom.

A 27-year-old woman with no history, medical resident at the hospital, presented an odynophagia followed by diffuse arthralgia and pruritic disseminated erythematous plaques eruption with particular face and acral involvement (Fig. 1), without cough or fever. The diagnosis of urticaria was confirmed by a dermatologist. No triggers except for the viral context were found, and common viral serology was negative. An antihistaminic treatment was established.

Forty-eight hours later, she reported chills, chest pain and fever up to 39.2 °C. She had a moderate lymphopenia, hepatic workup was normal, and CRP level was 49 mg/L. She was tested positive for COVID-19 (PCR SARS-CoV-2). She was treated with paracetamol, and antihistamines were kept with slow improvement of the symptoms.

The particular interest of this case is the inaugural appearance of a cutaneous manifestation, before fever or any respiratory symptom. It is essential to take into account and promote the potential recognition among clinicians of this possible skin manifestation of COVID-19 and lead to think about testing COVID-19 in these cases.

Acknowledgements

The patients in this manuscript have given written informed consent to the publication of their case details.

D. Henry,*  M. Ackerman,  E. Sancelme, A. Finon, E. Esteve

Department of Dermatology, CHR Orléans, Orléans, France

*Correspondence: D. Henry. E-mail: diane.henry@chr-orleans.fr

References

- 1 Cucinotta D, Vanelli M. WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic. *Acta Biomed* 2020; **91**: 157–160.
- 2 World Health Organization (WHO). Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) situation reports. URL <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports> (last accessed: 30 March 2020).
- 3 Lüers JC, Klußmann JP, Guntinas-Lichius O. The Covid-19 pandemic and otolaryngology: what it comes down to? *Laryngorhinootologie* 2020; **99**(5): 287–291.
- 4 Guan WJ, Ni ZY, Hu Y *et al*. Clinical characteristics of coronavirus disease 2019 in China. *N Engl J Med* 2020; **382**(18): 1708–1720.
- 5 Zhang J, Dong X, Cao Y *et al*. Clinical characteristics of 140 patients infected with SARS-Cov-2 in Wuhan, China. *Allergy* 2020; <https://doi.org/10.1111/all.14238>.
- 6 Recalcati S. Cutaneous manifestations in COVID-19: a first perspective. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol* 2020; **34**: e212–e213.

DOI: 10.1111/jdv.16472



Figure 1 Erythematous plaques (a). forehead, (b). hand and (c). foot.