



Case illustrated

Epstein-Barr virus induced skin rash in infectious mononucleosis

Yutaro Akiyama, Masahiro Ishikane*, Norio Ohmagari

Disease Control and Prevention Center, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Tokyo, Japan



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A 24-year-old man was admitted to our hospital 2 days after the onset of fever, pharyngeal pain, and diffuse rash. Physical examination revealed pharyngitis, bilateral tonsillar enlargement with white exudates, bilateral cervical adenopathy, and generalized, erythematous, maculopapular eruption (Figs. 1 and 2). Laboratory examination revealed elevated aminotransferases, lymphocytosis (4300/ μ L), and significant atypical lymphocytosis (7.0%). He had no history of medication and had sexual intercourse with his first partner a month before. He was diagnosed with infectious mononucleosis (IM) due to Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) by serological tests. Fever and rash disappeared 4 and 14 days after symptom onset, respectively.

Skin rash in IM due to EBV is known to appear after exposure to antimicrobials [1]. However, it has been suggested that there may be no relationship between exposure of antimicrobials and rash [2]. Clinicians must consider EBV-induced skin rash in IM even in the absence of antimicrobial exposure.

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Fig. 1. Epstein-Barr virus induced skin rash on hand. Physical examination revealed the erythematous, maculopapular eruption on hand.

* Correspondence to: Disease Control and Prevention Center, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, 1-21-1 Toyama, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-8655, Japan.

E-mail address: ishikanemasahiro@gmail.com (M. Ishikane).



Fig. 2. Epstein-Barr virus induced skin rash on leg. Physical examination revealed the erythematous, maculopapular eruption on the leg.

CRedit authorship contribution statement

Yutaro Akiyama, Masahiro Ishikane: Conceptualization. **Yutaro Akiyama, Masahiro Ishikane:** Data curation. **Yutaro Akiyama, Masahiro Ishikane:** Formal analysis. **Norio Ohmagari:** Supervision. All authors contributed to the writing of the final manuscript.

Conflict of interest

The authors state that they have no conflict of interest.

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Ethical approval

Written informed consent was obtained from the patient for publication of this case report and accompanying images.

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