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Azd-1222 S

Small-vessel cutaneous vasculitis: case report

A 61-year-old woman developed Small-vessel cutaneous vasculitis following immunization with Azd-1222 vaccine against COVID-19 infection.

The woman presented with a 7-day history of intensely pruritic erythematous-purpuric macules involving the lower legs and feet which progressed within hours to involve the buttocks, axillae and lateral aspects of the abdomen. The cutaneous lesions were preceded by myalgia and fatigue, which started about 12h after immunization and resolved within 48h. She had a significant medical history for hypertension and had been receiving losartan for 2   years. She reported that she had received her first dose of the Azd-1222 [ChAdOx1 - AstraZeneca] vaccine 5 days prior to the onset of the cutaneous lesions. She denied any respiratory complaints or other systemic symptoms. She had never experienced adverse reactions to other vaccines, such as Influenza and Yellow Fever. When she presented to the Dermatology Department for evaluation, cutaneous or systemic vasculitis and thrombocytopenic purpura were suspected. A skin biopsy from her right thigh showed leukocytoclasis, intense perivascular inflammation with neutrophils and eosinophils involving the superficial and deep dermis, as well as fibrinoid necrosis of the vessel walls. Eventually, she was diagnosed with small-vessel cutaneous vasculitis.

In view of the extent of cutaneous lesions and intense itching, the woman was started on prednisone and epinastine. Consequently, progressive resolution was noted in the cutaneous lesions. As per Infectious Diseases recommendations, she did not receive her second dose of the Azd-1222 vaccine.

Criado PR, et al. Vasculitis in the setting of COVID-19: From the disease to the vaccine. Report of a case of cutaneous vasculitis after immunization. Dermatologic Therapy 35: No. 5, May 2022. Available from: URL: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dth.15367