



Pellagroid discoid lupus erythematosus



Figure. Characteristic erythematous and hypopigmented atrophic plaques of discoid lupus erythematosus, with characteristic sharp cut-off at wrist mimicking pellagra.

A 48 yr old male[†], farmer by occupation, presented to us at the Dermatology outpatient department of Lady Hardinge Medical College and Associated Hospitals, New Delhi, India, in September 2019, with hypopigmented scaly itchy plaques over the dorsae of the hands for the past year and a half. On examination, there were well-defined hypopigmented erythematous scaly plaques, with peripheral hyperpigmentation and atrophy at places, over the dorsae of both the hands (Figure). The lesions had a sharp demarcation over the wrist area. There was no history of wearing full sleeve garment or using any photoprotection. There were no lesions over the face, the ear concha or the scalp. Oral mucosa was within normal limits. Nails showed sub-ungual hyperkeratosis and discoloration. Histopathology from the periphery showed superficial

and deep perivascular and peri-adnexal infiltrate of the lymphocytes, with interface vacuolar degeneration at the dermoepidermal junction. A diagnosis of DLE was made. The patient was treated with topical steroid (betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% cream) with marked improvement in six weeks.

Conflicts of Interest: None.

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