

## Is It EDV?

Dear Editor,

We read with interest the case report by Sane *et al.*<sup>[1]</sup> on diffuse hypopigmented keratoses in a young woman.

The clinical picture with skin colored and hypopigmented papules and patches and showing Koebner's phenomenon in some areas resembles epidermodysplasia verruciformis (EDV), and this has been discussed as a differential diagnosis in the article. EDV was excluded by the authors because the lesions were not brownish or erythematous. However, epidermodysplasia verruciformis can present as barely elevated, hypopigmented papules that resemble pityriasis versicolor or plane warts.<sup>[2]</sup>

In addition, the low power photomicrograph included as Figure 4 in the article shows collections of vacuolated keratinocytes in the epidermis. The authors ascribed these changes to chronic photodamage. However, photo-induced vacuolization of keratinocytes affects basal and suprabasal keratinocytes and is usually accompanied by hydropic degeneration below the basal layer,<sup>[3,4]</sup> unlike the localized

vacuolar changes in the mid- and upper epidermal layers seen in this patient.

In our opinion, the histopathological appearance closely resembles the low power appearance of EDV. For comparison, we provide the low power image of one of our cases of EDV [Figure 1]. Higher power examination in our case showed enlarged keratinocytes with abundant pale blue cytoplasm and enlarged nuclei, present in clusters and as individual units [Figure 2]. If high power photomicrographs of the reported case are provided, they can be evaluated for the presence of similar changes.

Could this actually be a case of epidermodysplasia verruciformis?

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### *Conflicts of interest*

There are no conflicts of interest.

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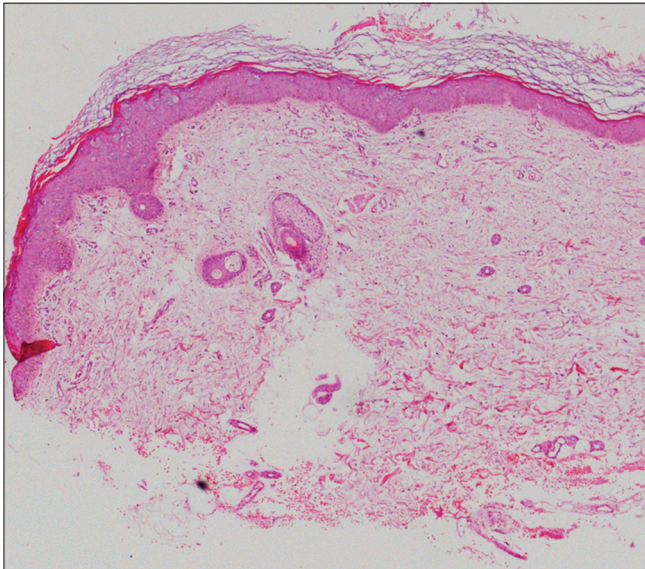


Figure 1: Collections of enlarged keratinocytes predominantly in the upper epidermis (H and E, 40x)

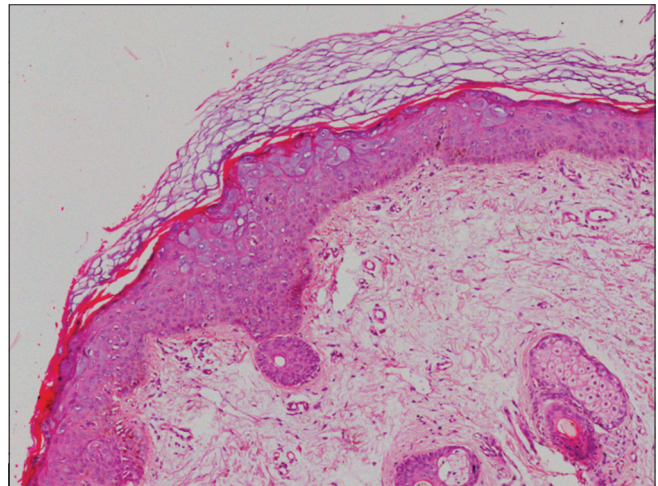


Figure 2: Many enlarged keratinocytes with abundant bluish-gray cytoplasm and prominent nuclei in a slightly acanthotic epidermis (H and E, 100x)


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