

Tutorials in Pediatric Dermatology

Congenital Cutaneous Candidiasis

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A newborn infant was admitted to the department of dermatology due to a universal scaly rash which was present at the time of birth. Both the mother and the infant were otherwise healthy. The infant's skin was slightly erythematous with superficial fine dry scaling, and a few pustules were observed on the feet. Direct microscopy of a KOH preparation showed hyphae and yeasts confirming the diagnosis of congenital cutaneous candidiasis.

Congenital cutaneous candidiasis is a rare condition seen in newborns where the mother has a *Candida albicans* infection prior to delivery. This form of candidiasis is believed to occur after yeasts ascend from the vagina and penetrate the amniotic membranes. The rash disappeared rapidly after treatment with a topical imidazol-containing cream.

