

Linear Steatocystoma Multiplex

Sir,

Steatocystoma multiplex is characterised by multiple skin-coloured to yellowish elastic nodules, usually distributed over the upper trunk, arms and axilla (1). We report a patient who had lesions on the neck, distributed in a pattern that posed a diagnostic problem.

CASE REPORT

An 18-year-old male presented with asymptomatic, non-progressive, skin-coloured nodules on the left side of the neck of 10 years' duration. There was no family history of similar lesions. Clinical examination revealed 10 nodules distributed in an irregular linear band, about 15 cm long, over the left side of neck (Fig. 1). The lesions were 1–2 cm in diameter, skin-coloured, dome-shaped and rubbery in consistency. The overlying skin was attached to the nodules but was normal in appearance, and there were no visible puncta. A cheesy white material was expressed on puncturing one of the nodules. Excision biopsy of one of the lesions showed features compatible with steatocystoma multiplex.

COMMENT

Steatocystoma multiplex has been reported to occur in unusual distributions, including lesions confined to the scalp (2), face (3) and retroauricular region (4). The unilateral, linear distribution of lesions in our patient initially caused confusion with other linear/nevoid lesions. To the best of our knowledge, this distribution has not been reported so far. Awareness of this clinical variant of steatocystoma multiplex will permit prompt recognition and avoid diagnostic difficulties.

REFERENCES

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Fig. 1. Skin-coloured nodules distributed in an irregular linear band over the nape of neck.

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