

■ DERMATO-VENEREOLOGICAL QUIZ

Prepared by Dr. W. K. Fung



Figure 1

Question 1

A 30-year-old man presented with multiple yellow papules over his neck, axillae, groins and antecubital fossae for six months. The lesions were asymptomatic. He had no systemic upset.

1. *What is the clinical diagnosis?*
2. *What are the histological findings of these yellowish papules?*
3. *What systems are typically involved?*



Figure 2

Question 2

A 40-year-old man presented with multiple, painless, dull red nodules in the forehead and neck region for four months. He had no systemic upset.

1. *What is the clinical diagnosis?*
2. *What are the histological findings?*
3. *What abnormality may be found in the complete blood picture?*

(answers on page 119)

Answers to Dermato-venereological Quiz on page 139

Answer (Question 1)

1. Pseudoxanthoma elasticum.

This is an inherited generalized degenerative disease of elastic tissue, of which autosomal dominant and recessive variants exist. The disorder consists of characteristic skin lesions involving flexural sites, ocular involvement and cardiovascular manifestations.

2. Histologically, the elastic fibres are irregular, thickened and fragmented, appearing as widely dispersed granular material amidst normal collagen fibres. The elastic fibres can be highlighted with the von Kossa stain.

3. The gastrointestinal tract (gastrointestinal haemorrhage), cardiovascular system (hypertension and occlusive vascular disease) and eyes (angioid streaks and retinal haemorrhage) are typically involved.

Answer (Question 2)

1. Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia. It presents as pink, purple, or deep-red domed shaped nodules on the scalp, around the ears, and on the neck. Nodules may be solitary, or they may be multiple and discrete or confluent. Some lesions may present clinically as subcutaneous nodules. Nodules of angiolymphoid hyperplasia are more frequent in middle-age women.

2. Histologically, the lesions are predominately intradermal and appear as ill-defined, lobulated masses composed of numerous variably sized vascular channels. The vessels are lined by large endothelial cells with markedly histiocytoid appearances. There is an eosinophilic infiltrate in the surrounding stroma.

3. Blood eosinophilia is present in 10-15% of the patients.