

Dermato-venereological Quiz

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A 50-year-old woman was admitted to the hospital for widespread blisters and painful oral ulcers. She had a known history of follicular dendritic cell sarcoma refractory to chemotherapy and was on palliative care. She had been given a course of

Ticarcillin disodium/Potassium clavulanate for pneumonia two weeks previously. Physical examination showed generalized blisters and extensive erosions (Figures 1 & 2). There was severe mucositis affecting the lips, buccal mucosa and tongue (Figure 3). Minute erosions were also found over the vulva. An incisional skin biopsy was performed over the back and the histological section and immunofluorescence study is shown (Figures 4 & 5).



Figure 1. Widespread erosions noted over the trunk and limbs.



Figure 2. Tense blisters over both soles.

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Figure 3. Severe mucositis over the lips and oral cavity.

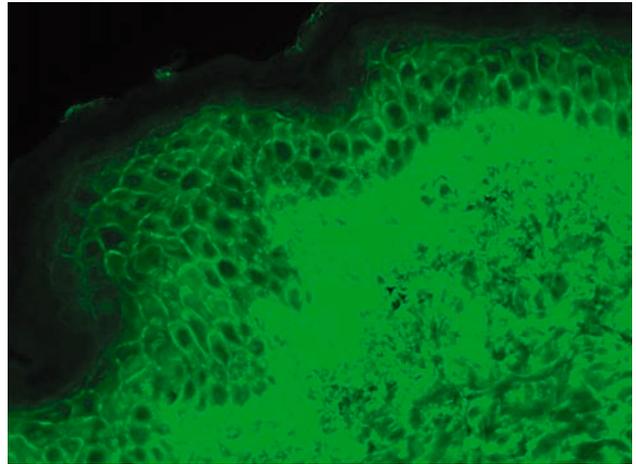


Figure 5. Direct immunofluorescence showing strong intercellular staining pattern with IgG (X100).

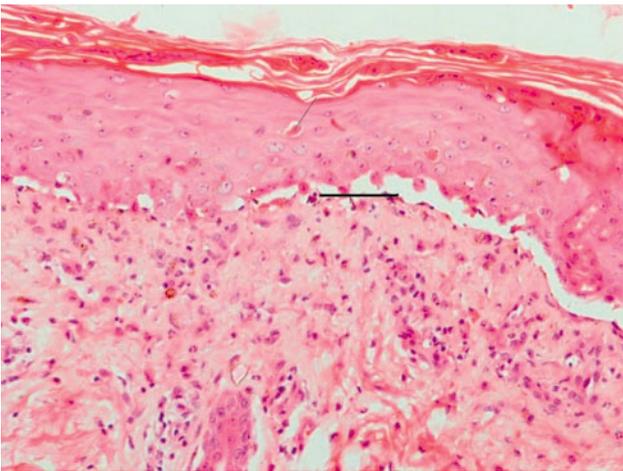


Figure 4. Photomicrograph (H&E X100) showing lichenoid interface dermatitis including cytotoid bodies (thin line) with basal vacuolation, suprabasal acantholysis and tombstoning (thick line).

Questions

- 1) What are the clinical differential diagnoses?
- 2) What are the histopathological features shown in the figure?
- 3) What is the diagnosis?
- 4) How would you manage the patient?

(Answers on page 147)

