

DERMATO-VENEREOLOGICAL QUIZ

Prepared by Dr. K. T. Chan



Question 1

This 60-year-old gentleman presented to our dermatological clinic with a two years history of slowly progressive, mildly pruritic erythematous facial eruption. He lived alone and moved to Hong Kong from China 20 years ago.

1. *What is your dermatological diagnosis?*
2. *Name three clinical signs of this disease as manifested in this patient.*
3. *What other investigations would you perform to confirm your diagnosis?*

Question 2

This 40-year-old male patient was seen in our STD clinic presented with this troublesome finger nails infections.

1. *What is your initial dermatological diagnosis?*
2. *What is the unusual feature in this case?*
3. *What underlying condition do you suspect this male patient has?*



(answers on page 23)

Answers to Dermato-venereological Quiz

Answers (Question 1)

1. Lepromatous leprosy
2. a) Leonine face- multiple nodular lesions are present in advanced lepromatous leprosy on the face leading to a lion-like appearance.
b) Loss of eyebrows- thinning or baldness of the eyebrows is an early sign of lepromatous leprosy and is due to the deep-seated infiltration. This often leads, in advanced stages, to complete loss of eyebrow (madarosis)
c) Loss of eyelashes- lepromatous infiltration may cause loss of some lashes and atrophy of the tissues supporting the remaining lashes, the latter may turn in towards the eye (trichiasis) and lead to corneal vascularity and opacity.
3. Slit skin smears for acid-fast bacilli and incisional skin biopsy for histopathology and Wade-Fite stain.

Answers (Question 2)

1. Superficial white onychomycosis involving finger nails and chronic paronychia.
2. All ten finger nails are asymmetrically affected extensively.
3. This patient is HIV-positive and immuno-compromised.
Nail changes are seen in as many as 32% of patients with symptomatic HIV infection. Although none of the nail changes are pathognomonic of HIV disease, several findings should raise the possibility of HIV disease: proximal white subungual onychomycosis, or superficial white onychomycosis, especially of the fingernail; multi-nail candidal infection of the nail bed and/or plate; and squamous cell carcinoma of the nail bed in young adults.