

Basal cell epithelioma in a pigmented nevus ; Report of a case with ulceration : V. R. Mehta (Dept Dermat Venereol, L. T. M. M. College and L. T. M. G. Hospital, Bombay) Indian J Med Sc, 33 : 214-216, 1979.

In their report on this unusual association Sigal and Saunders had stated that the nevic component is of the resting dermal type, the association fortuitous and that ulceration in such a combination has not been described. The present report describes a patient with a compound nevus which had existed on the back as long as the patient could remember, ulcerating at the age of 40 yrs., and presenting with a typical noduloulcerative pigmented B. C. E. Nevic tissue around the basal cell tumorous masses was demonstrated with Dopa and Hematoxylin-Reticulin stains. An attempt has been made to explain this aggressive transformation in a pigmented nevus.

Griseofulvin therapy in viral warts : T. R. Kapur and O. P. Singh (Classified specialists, Derm and Ven, Command Hospital, Chandigarh) Indian Med Gaz, CXIII : 432-433, 1979.

Sixty-four cases of viral warts of different morphological types were divided into two equal groups to assess the efficacy of griseofulvin therapy compared with placebo treatment. 21 out of 32 responded to the drug as compared to 4 out of 32 on placebo and complete cure was observed in 16 cases on the drug as compared to only one case on placebo. Moreover, 27 patients who did not show any response on placebo and were available for trial showed definite improvement in 16 cases, thus revealing the efficacy of griseofulvin therapy in the treatment of viral warts except in a case of condylomata acuminata. Authors recommend the use of griseofulvin therapy in verrucae vulgaris, verrucae plana and verrucae plantaris instead of resorting to painful and destructive treatment, especially in cases with extensive lesions.

Human gamma globulin in the treatment of pemphigus vulgaris and contact dermatitis : R. K. Dutta, (Dermatologist, Command Hospital, Air Force, Bangalore) Indian Med Gaz, Vol. CXIII, 421-423, 1979.

Beneficial effect and possible mode of action of normal human gamma globulin in management of resistant and complicated cases of pemphigus vulgaris and contact dermatitis (Parthenium) is reported. All were chronic cases which had developed steroid dependence, steroid induced diabetes mellitus, bacterial and viral infections.

The causes of development of steroid dependence and responsiveness to routine therapy is discussed.

EDITOR'S REPORT - 1979

Mr. Chairman, members of the executive committee and colleagues,

It is my pleasant task again to share with you the activities pertaining to the work of the journal for yet another year through this annual report for the period 1979-80. As I sat at my desk trying to recollect any highlights of the year, I was struck by the routine nature of it all. All the same, since we have been entrusted with this work by you, I am duty-bound to present this report and you in turn just as duty-bound to give it a patient hearing. I shall be brief.

The routines have all gone on and the last of the 6 issues must have reached you at least over a week ago. Although go-slow movements and pen-down strikes were rampant in the country, these did not affect our work in any way. Therefore we have been able to despatch all the issues at reasonably regular intervals.

You may have noticed some changes in the journal. Unquestionably the journal has gained in weight. Perhaps a sign of good health. In fact the journal size had been steadily increasing for the past 3 years. Almost every year there had been some new introduction to the contents beginning with the editorials which have featured from 1976. This has been followed by further new introductions — The self-assessment programme, the current dermatological therapy and such others. In the year 1979, we increased the scientific content of the journal by increasing the number of articles published. Against an average of 72 articles per year in the past, we published 89 during 1979. This has been necessary to clear our big backlog. We continue to lag behind. This backlog is a cause of concern to us and particularly the contributors. Several suggestions have been made to improve this situation. One of these is that we grade the quality of articles as A and B and give preference to those graded A with regard to earlier publication. I am sure this suggestion is acceptable and we hope to give this a trial in 1980.

A few months ago we agreed on a forum to follow with regard to the style of publication known as the Vancouver requirement. This is an internationally used forum which is only marginally different from what is currently followed. These changes have been incorporated into the "instructions to contributors" column of the journal. Kindly make note of this and follow the instructions carefully while preparing your manuscripts.

To the extent that has been possible, we have tried to maintain a certain standard for the journal both in the general get up as well as in the quality of its scientific content. We shall continue to aim better performance with of course your full-hearted cooperation; for the accomplishment of the task will not be mine alone but a total accomplishment of the association which is yourself.