

## SYSTEMIC PHOTOSENSITIVITY TOWARDS CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE (ENDOXAN) (A case report)

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### Summary

A case of systemic photo sensitivity due to cyclophosphamide (Endoxan) is reported.

Systemic Photosensitivity is often caused by drugs such as sulphonamides, sulphonylureas, chlorthiazides, phenothiazines, demethylchlor tetracycline, griseofulvin, isoniazid, psoralen etc. (Rook, 1969). Photosensitivity towards cyclophosphamide (endoxan) has not been reported in the literature so far and it is justified reporting this case.

### Case Report

A woman, 48 years of age, underwent ovariectomy in August 1974 and was operated for carcinoma of left side of breast in January 1975. She was taking tablet Endoxan one tablet twice a day after her discharge from the hospital in February. In the month of April she started getting erythema over sun exposed areas such as face, forehead, back of neck, front of neck, dorsal aspects of both hands and both forearms. This was followed by papulovesicular eruption, oozing and crusting. Areas — covered with blouse, upper eye lids and sub mandibular region

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were free from eruption. She was diagnosed as a case of systemic photosensitivity due to cyclophosphamide (endoxan). The drug was stopped and patient treated with actidil tablets, local applications of paraminol cream and dexaquin. The lesions cleared up gradually within two weeks.

### Comments

Drug induced systemic photosensitivity is not uncommon these days and some of the drugs incriminated may be life saving ones. Cytotoxic drugs belong to this group. These are haematotoxic, teratogenic and hepatotoxic. Endoxan in addition produces photosensitivity and this should also be borne in mind while prescribing the drug.

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### REFERENCE

1. Rook A : Photosensitivity, Text book of Dermatology, 1st Ed. Edited by Rook A, Wilkinson DS, Fbling FJG, Black well Scientific Publication Oxford and Edinburgh, 1968, P 345-347.