

Paraneoplastic hypertrichosis lanuginosa acquisita



Figure 1: Acquired paraneoplastic hypertrichosis. The appearance of fine hair on the forehead and pinna



Figure 2: Acquired paraneoplastic hypertrichosis lanuginosa. White fine hair on the patient's nose, a usually hairless site

A man in his 70s consulted for the growth of fine long, white, fetus-like hair over his face that was noticed in the past one month [Figures 1-3]. A diagnosis of acquired hypertrichosis lanuginosa was made. Computerized tomography scan and biopsy confirmed an advanced lung adenocarcinoma. The patient denied chemotherapy treatment and was referred to the palliative care unit, and he died five months after diagnosis. The skin condition showed no changes during follow-up.

Acquired hypertrichosis lanuginosa is a rare paraneoplastic cutaneous syndrome, reported to be associated with colorectal or pulmonary adenocarcinomas and is considered a poor prognostic sign for patients with such carcinomas. The growth of lanugo hair seems to be triggered by an embryonic-like peptide produced by the tumor. A screening for occult malignant neoplasms must be performed in all cases.

How to cite this article: Gómez-Arias PJ, Vélez AJ, Salido-Vallejo R. Paraneoplastic hypertrichosis lanuginosa acquisita. *Indian J Dermatol Venereol Leprol* 2022;88:525-6.

Received: April, 2020 **Accepted:** July, 2020 **EPub Ahead of Print:** April, 2021 **Published:** June, 2022

DOI: 10.25259/IJDVL_448_20 **PMID:** 33871203

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 License, which allows others to remix, transform, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as the author is credited and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.



Figure 3: Excessive growth of fine white lanugo over the pinna

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent.

Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

Pedro Jesús Gómez-Arias, Antonio José Vélez García-Nieto, Rafael Salido-Vallejo¹

Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Reina Sofía University Hospital, Córdoba,

¹Department of Dermatology, University Clinic of Navarra, School of Medicine, University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain

Corresponding author:

Dr. Pedro Jesús Gómez-Arias,

Department of Dermatology & Venereology, Reina Sofía University Hospital,

Avenida de Menéndez Pidal s/n, Córdoba 14004, Spain.

pjga10@hotmail.com