

CANDIDIASIS OF THE BEARD REGION

Candidiasis is known to involve various skin folds on the body such as the groins, interdigital areas of the toes and fingers, infra-mammary region and neck, apart from the other cutaneous and mucosal manifestations. To the best of our knowledge, involvement of the beard region in a Sikh gentleman has not been reported so far. Recently, we saw a 58-year-old Sikh gentleman who had been having maceration and erythema in the interdigital folds between the 4th and 5th toes of both his feet for the last 10 years with worsening during the rainy seasons. For the last 4 years he had also been having recurrent episodes of itching and scaly hyperpigmented areas in both his groins during the rainy seasons. Three weeks ago he developed an itchy erythematous area on the right side of his chin which subsequently spread throughout his beard region including the ear lobules. It became exudative

and macerated. Scrapings from the beard region, the groin and the interdigital area were positive for candida. There was no indication of diabetes mellitus in him or in his immediate family members, but his paternal grandmother and one paternal cousin had had diabetes mellitus. Blood sugar levels in the patient were normal. He was otherwise quite healthy and there was no indication of any other factor predisposing to candidiasis. Treatment with Kenacomb ointment containing nystatin 1,00,000 units, neomycin 2.5 mg, gramicidin 0.25 mg and triamcinolone acetonide 1 mg per gram of ointment locally twice a day resulted in prompt recovery within one week.

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