

# ICHTHYOSIS HYSTRIX

(Three Cases in a Family)\*

By

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Ichthyosis hystrix is a peculiar type of giant nevus which may involve large areas of skin of trunk and limbs and is characterized by thick horny hypertrophic, papillary elevation. The warty projections vary considerably in diameter and length and in extreme instances, they may impart to the affected areas a porcupine like appearance. These nevi have an extensive nomenclature by their individual variations; Nevus verrucosus, Nevus unius lateris, Nevus follicularis keratosus, Nevus acneformis unilateralis and ichthyosis hystrix. Extreme rarity of the cases formed the basis of the present paper.

Case Report: A young couple reported to the out patient department of S. N. Medical College, Agra with their three offsprings having white spots on the body.

First child A. D. S. 4 years H. M. C., started his illness at two years of age when white spots appeared on the left buttock which were two in number followed by two more such spots which were followed by appearance of white longitudinal line from buttock to the foot. As the line appeared white spots in the region of buttock faded. (Plate I).

Second child A. M. S. 2 years H. M. C., was looked after the disease was found in his elder brother and he also had white spots in the region of the left buttock. It had tendency to extend downward in irregular way (Plate II).

Third child A. N. S. 1 year H. F. C. Showed few minute dot like white spots which had a tendency to coalesce together to form a big spot on the left buttock. Similar spot was detected on the back of left elbow joint.

All the three children have a tendency that after trauma in any region, the skin formed does not match with the original colour of the skin.

## Discussion

Systematized linear nevi of bizarre appearance of considerable clinical interest have often been noted. The lesions may be atrophic in large part as in the case of Libermann (1935). Mcglasson (1921) reported two instances of onychogryposis ichthyosis hystrix and keratoses occurring in the family. Davies (1920) reported two cases of ichthyosis hystrix occurring in the same family. The present family has got three children and all of them have got the disease, a very rare occurrence.

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Ichthyosiform nevoid alteration of mucosa of the oral cavity and other mucous orifices has been observed (Canon, Micscher). This was unilateral in Barber's patient and involved the lip in its extension keratosis tonsillarum and has received considerable attention from orolaryngologists (Gabert 1922) for it some times interferes with phonation.

#### Summary

Three cases of Ichthyosis hystrix have been reported in the same family, a very rare occurrence.

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