

Neonatal lupus erythematosus presenting as raccoon eyes

A newborn girl presented with multiple, symmetric, erythematous papules and plaques on the forehead, nose, periorbital and malar areas [Figure 1]. Haematological evaluation revealed thrombocytopenia and abnormal liver function, though her echocardiogram and neurosonogram were normal. There was no evidence of Toxoplasmosis, Rubella, Cytomegalovirus, and Herpes simplex (TORCH) infections. Other causes of raccoon eyes in newborns like birth trauma and haematological coagulopathies were ruled out. The

mother exhibited Raynaud's phenomenon, photosensitivity, and a hyperpigmented plaque on the palate. An antinuclear antibody (ANA) profile test for both mother and newborn showed strong positivity for anti-U1SnRNP antibodies, while anti-Ro and anti-La antibodies were negative. Based on these findings, a diagnosis of neonatal lupus erythematosus was made, featuring the classical raccoon eye appearance and the presence of anti-U1SnRNP antibodies. Her cutaneous lesions nearly resolved after six weeks.



Figure 1: Multiple, discrete, and confluent, erythematous papules and plaques distributed on the bilateral malar area, periorbital area, and the nose.

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