

## ACROGERIA (A case report)

A. MAHAKRISHNAN\*

### Summary

A case of acrogeria is reported for its rarity and unilateral presentation.

### Introduction

Acrogeria is a rare developmental disorder characterised by senile appearance of the skin involving primarily and predominantly the dorsa of hands and feet. The affected area is thin, transparent and wrinkled. Histologically thinning of dermis, sparse collagen with clumped elastic fibres and attenuated or absent subcutis are characteristic<sup>1</sup>.

### Case Report

A 5 year old girl, the fourth child of non consanguinous parents was seen for asymptomatic skin lesions since birth. There was no history of photo sensitivity and no history of similar lesions in parents or siblings. Examination revealed the skin over the dorsum of left hand thin, atrophic and wrinkled (Fig.). The nail of the left thumb was thin and small. Systemic examination revealed no abnormality.

### Investigations

Routine urine and hematological examination revealed no abnormality. X-ray of hands showed no bony abnormality. Biopsy of involved skin showed normal epidermis with marked attenuation of dermis and subcutis. Elastic stain showed increased elastic fibres.

### Discussion

Acrogeria is a rare developmental

disorder usually occurring sporadically. The marked attenuation of dermis and subcutis causes the senile appearance of the skin. The dorsa of hands and feet are usually affected. Other areas if affected show milder changes. Though the condition usually occurs as an isolated abnormality, mental retardation, hypoplasia of nails, bone dysplasia and sparse hair may be rarely associated. Absence of photosensitivity is also a feature<sup>1</sup>. Our case is reported for its rarity and its unilateral presentation.



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### Reference

1. Arthur Rook: Disorders of connective tissue; Text Book of Dermatology 2nd Ed. Edited by Arthur Rook, Wilkinson DS, and Ebling FJG. Oxford, London, Edinburgh. Melbourne - Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1972 p. 1463.

\* Tutor in Dermatology  
Tirunelveli Medical College Hospital  
Tirunelveli-627011

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