LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LIPOID PROTEINOSIS WITH PUNCTATE KERATODERMA OF PALMS AND SOLES

A 40-year-old male born of consanguincus marriage presented with classical features of lipoid proteinosis such as hoarseness of voice and yellowish waxy nodular and indurated lesions in the skin (Fig. 1) and mucous membranes. In addition he had punctate keratoderma of both palms (Fig. 2) and soles. Biopsy from a nodular skin lesion and palm revealed cosinophilic material in the upper dermis surrounding the blood vessels and sweat glands (Fig. 3). Biopsy from the palm in addition showed hyperkeratosis with follicular plugging.

Lipoid proteinosis is a disorder of autosomal recessive trait related to an abnormal deposition of hyaline material in the skin, mucous membranes, upper respiratory and gastro-intestinal tracts and other viscoral organs perhaps associated with a perturbation of collagen synthesis.¹ Verrucoid plaques which are sometimes red and



Fig. 1. Lipoid proteinosis.

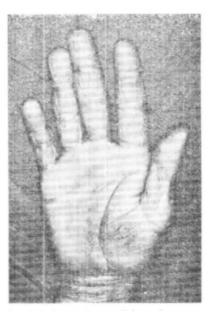


Fig. 2. Punctate keratoderma of the palms.

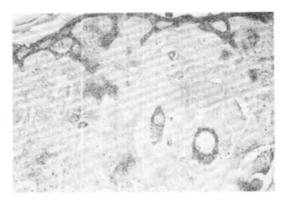


Fig. 3. Atrophic epidermis with periappendageal cosinophilic deposit (Hacmatoxylin---Eosin, × 10).

scaly may also develop over elbows, knees, buttocks, fingers and face. Though localised hyperkeratosis in the palms can cccur,² punctate keratoderma which is determined by an auto-

somal dominant gene has not been reported in association with lipoid proteinosis.

C Balachandran, C R Srinivas, S D Shenoy, K Ramnarayan and Ambareesh Padhee

Departments of Skin and STD and Pathology, Kasturba Medical College and Hospital, Manipal-576 119, India.

References

- 1. Harper JI, Duance VC, Simns TJ et al: Lipoid proteinosis, an inherited disorder of collagen metabolism? Brit J Dermatol, 1985; 113: 145-151.
- Baden HP: Keratoderma of palms and soles, in: Dermatology in General Medicine, Vol 1, 3rd ed, Editors, Fitzpatrick TB, Eisen AZ, Wolff K et al: McGraw Hill Company, New York, 1987; p 529-533.