

Reticulate pigmentation in non-bullous ichthyosiform erythroderma



Figure 1: (a) Reticulate pigmentation with areas of adherent scales on the thighs, (b) legs depicting areas of hypopigmentation following the shedding of plate-like scales

A 17-year-old girl, born of a non-consanguineous marriage, was reported to have been encased in a collodion membrane at birth. At presentation to us, she had generalized erythema and scaling that was grayish-white, fine and semi-adherent on the face and brownish, large, adherent and plate-like on the trunk and extremities. Palmoplantar keratoderma was noted. A clinical diagnosis of non-bullous ichthyosiform erythroderma was made and she was prescribed daily application of 10% urea in glycerine. Six weeks later, there was significant improvement in scaling but a bizarre net-like pigmentation appeared. The pigmented areas represented clinically normal skin while the areas which had shed the scales appeared hypopigmented. Manual removal of some of the persistent scales showed similar hypopigmentation beneath them.

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Conflicts of interest

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