

Persistent Patches

Stanley J. Wine, MD, FRCPC

Copyright©
Not for Sale or Commercial Distribution
Unauthorised use prohibited. Authorised users can download, display, view and print a single copy for personal use

Meet George

- This 70-year-old man presents with an evolving, asymptomatic eruption on his lower legs that has been present for three years
- He is on medication for diabetes and high blood pressure



What is your diagnosis?

- a) Drug eruption c) Kaposi's sarcoma e) Mycosis fungoides
b) Benign purpura d) Diabetic dermopathy

Win



Send in your correct answer for a chance to win a **CME** courier pack!

Fill in the information below and fax this page to:

1 (888) 695-8554

If you diagnose correctly, you will be entered in our monthly draw.

Please circle the letter you believe corresponds to the correct answer.

Your Answer: **a b c d e**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Or e-mail the answer to **cme@sta.ca** and include "CME courier pack" in the subject line. Also, include your NAME, ADDRESS, and PHONE NUMBER.

See page 2 for the answer to last month's case



Here is the answer to last month's case

Meet Harriet

- Harriet is a 36-year-old, Caucasian female with numerous papules on the dorsum of her hands of about one-year duration. They have been increasing in number over time
- They are generally asymptomatic, though they are occasionally itchy
- A mild topical steroid was prescribed, which did not seem to improve the lesions
- She is otherwise healthy, takes no medications, and has no family history of skin problems



What is your diagnosis?

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|
| a) Gottron's papules of dermatomyositis | b) Common warts | d) Knuckle pads |
| | c) Psoriasis | e) Dyshidrotic eczema |

Answer: B

This is a case of common warts (**answer b**). There are now over 120 strains of the human papillomavirus that cause warts. Although infectious and, therefore, contagious, warts often affect just one part of the body without spreading to other areas. Different types of warts include plantar warts (bottom of foot), flat or plane warts (face, legs), periungual warts (around or under a nail), filiform warts (single long stalk), and genital warts. Specific, "high risk" types of HPV that cause genital warts are

associated with anal, penile, cervical, and vulvar cancers. Periungual, mosaic, and flat warts are particularly stubborn lesions to treat.

Benign neglect is a popular treatment option, since many warts will simply resolve on their own with time. Over the counter salicylic acid preparations of various concentrations (typically 17 to 40%) can be tried, as can "suffocating" warts with duct tape, which is of questionable benefit. Physicians will typically perform liquid

nitrogen cryotherapy and/or prescribe a mix of acid compounds or immunomodulators, such as imiquimod or 5-fluorouracil. Topical cantharone can also be tried in some cases, as can electrosurgery, bleomycin injections or tattooing, and excision.

Benjamin Barankin, MD, FRCPC

cme

Congratulations

to our winner for the month of
June 2013

Dr. Sam Naghibi

Newmarket, Ontario