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Chemotherapy-Related Reticulate Hyperpigmentation: A Case Series and Review of the Literature.

Masson Regnault M1, Gadaud N, Boulinguez S, Tournier E, Lamant L, Gladieff L, Roche H, Guenounou S, Recher C, Sibaud V. *Dermatology*. 2015;231(4):312-8. doi: 10.1159/000439047.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Inherited or acquired reticulate hyperpigmentation represents a heterogeneous group of infrequent dermatological conditions. The development of reticulate hyperpigmentation has so far been rarely reported to be associated with chemotherapeutic agents, including fluorouracil, bleomycin or a combination of cytarabine and idarubicin. **CASE REPORTS:** We describe 5 cases of chemotherapy-related reticulate hyperpigmentation in patients treated with different chemotherapeutic regimens, in particular paclitaxel or cytarabine. The lesions were similar in all cases, with reticulate and/or linear hyperpigmented streaks, which were mainly located to the back and buttocks. Histology showed increased melanogenesis, which suggests a direct toxic effect of chemotherapy on melanocytes. Reflectance confocal microscopy was performed in 2 patients showing a similar pattern, with an increased amount of melanin in basal keratinocytes. These features have been compared with the available data through a literature review. **CONCLUSION:** Reticulate hyperpigmentation is an underestimated but characteristic complication of chemotherapy. Neither specific management nor discontinuation of the chemotherapeutic regimen is required. © 2015 S. Karger AG, Basel. PMID:26422424