

Shingles in the Elderly Person. Atypical Localization: A Case Study

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ABSTRACT

Shingles is secondary in the reactivation of the Varicella zoster virus (VZV) that has remained latent inside the sensory nodes. Both the thoracic and the trigeminal are the most frequent sites of the viral reactivation.

Shingles is characterized by a unilateral pain and either a vesicular or a bullous eruption which is restricted to one or several dermatomes innervated by the corresponding sensory nodes.

Ageing and immunosuppression promotes its emergence. Its prevalence is estimated at 20 %. It can arise at any age, but there is a clear predominance among adults beyond 50 years in particular.

In our work we report a typical localization of Shingles for an elderly person's case. He is in fact a 62-year-old patient; he is hypertensive; he is under treatment, he doesn't have diabetes, he consults a doctor for skin rash with small vesicles, grouped together in a bouquet which are localized at the level of the gluteal region and the right lumbar vertebra. It appeared 2 days after the sub acute emergence of constricting pain, intense burning sensation with an important hypersensitivity localized at the level of the inguinal region. We suggest supporting the peculiarities of this localization, the modalities of support and its future forecast by insisting on the importance of prevention by means of vaccination.

Shingles is a generally mild disease. The intercostal form is the most frequent, but it is necessary to know how to evoke the diagnosis facing a sensory neuropathy of a sub acute emergence and a skin rash no matter what is its localization in an elderly person.