Clinical Vignette

Severe necrotic scrotal ulcers: a relapse note in Behçet’s disease

A 43-yr-old man, who had had a diagnosis of Behçet’s disease for 18 yr, presented with multiple, very painful oral and scrotal ulcers. He could not walk due to the latter complaints. The medical history comprised severe Behçet’s disease with two major vascular events: thrombosis of the superior vena cava and occlusion of the sagittal sinus. The patient declared that he had stopped his medical treatment, consisting of oral prednisolone, azathioprine, colchicine and warfarin, a few weeks ago. The figure illustrates three large and one medium-sized deep ulcers with necrotic centres, and also hypopigmented, mildly atrophic scars of previous ulcers in the scrotum. In addition to his previous regimen with strict reassurance, local ulcer care was explained to the patient.

We underscore the importance of the patient’s compliance in the management of such a potentially devastating rheumatic disease—well known for its severe course in young males. In addition, we highlight the possibility of severe vasculitic relapse episodes and their adverse impact on the quality of life of Behçet’s disease patients.

The authors have declared no conflicts of interest.

doi:10.1093/rheumatology/keh368

A. K. ÖGUZ, L. ÖZÇAKAR, B. KAYMAK

Correspondence to: L. Özçakar. E-mail: lozcanak@yahoo.com