


Clinical vignette

Three-pointed star sign of lupus enteritis

A 62-year-old woman presented to our hospital with a 7-day history of increasing nausea, vomiting, watery diarrhoea and abdominal pain. She had been having watery diarrhoea and abdominal pain frequently for one and a half years previously. On admission, she had photosensitivity, lymphocytopenia, pericarditis and a high titre of ANA. Anti-dsDNA antibody, aPL and aCL b2-glycoprotein-1 antibody were all positive. These findings were highly suggestive of SLE. CT with contrast enhancement of the abdomen showed marked bowel wall thickening with a three-pointed star appearance and enhancement of the ascending colon (Fig. 1). The patient was diagnosed with lupus enteritis. She was treated with prednisolone 20 mg daily and recovered rapidly in 2 weeks.

Disclosure statement: The authors have declared no conflicts of interest.

Yasuyuki Kamata1 and Seiji Minota1

1Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology, Jichi Medical University, Tochigi-ken, Japan.

Correspondence to: Yasuyuki Kamata, Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, Jichi Medical University, 3311-1 Yakushiji, Shimotsuke-shi, Tochigi-ken 329-0498, Japan.

E-mail: y.kamata@jichi.ac.jp

© The Author 2013. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British Society for Rheumatology. All rights reserved. For Permissions, please email: journals.permissions@oup.com

FIG. 1 Contrast-enhanced CT scan at the level of the kidney showing wall thickening of the colon.