Clinical vignette

Millet-seed conjunctival nodules

A 44-year-old Caucasian woman with a 9-year established diagnosis of sarcoidosis presented with persistent local conjunctival injection in her left eye. A 2-week course of steroid eye drops had been ineffective. Her pulmonary sarcoidosis has been in remission. On ophthalmic examination, her best-corrected visual acuity was 20/20 in both eyes. Intraocular pressures were normal. There was a moderate level of conjunctival injection in the nasal interpalpebral fissure of the left eye, along with four small, elevated yellowish nodules resembling millet-seed in the nasal side of the bulbar conjunctiva (Fig. 1A). There was no evidence of anterior chamber inflammation, and the optic fundi were also normal. Excisional biopsy was performed on the conjunctival nodules, which showed non-caseating epithelioid cell granulomas (Fig. 1B) suggestive of sarcoid granulomas. Uveitis is the most common ocular manifestation of systemic sarcoidosis, followed by conjunctival lesions that often appear as yellowish nodules mimicking the appearance of millet seeds.

Funding: No specific funding was received from any bodies in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors to carry out the work described in this manuscript.

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

Ali Mahdavi Fard¹, Leili Pourafkari²,³ and Nader D. Nader³

¹Department of Ophthalmology, ²Department of Cardiology, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran and ³Department of Anesthesiology, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY, USA

Correspondence to: Nader D. Nader, Anesthesiology, University at Buffalo, 77 Goodell Street, Suite 510, Buffalo, NY 14203, USA. E-mail: nnader@buffalo.edu

Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British Society for Rheumatology 2016. This work is written by US Government employees and is in the public domain in the United States.