

Answers to Dermato-venereological Quiz on page 139

Answer (Question 1)

1. Pseudoxanthoma elasticum.

This is an inherited generalized degenerative disease of elastic tissue, of which autosomal dominant and recessive variants exist. The disorder consists of characteristic skin lesions involving flexural sites, ocular involvement and cardiovascular manifestations.

2. Histologically, the elastic fibres are irregular, thickened and fragmented, appearing as widely dispersed granular material amidst normal collagen fibres. The elastic fibres can be highlighted with the von Kossa stain.
3. The gastrointestinal tract (gastrointestinal haemorrhage), cardiovascular system (hypertension and occlusive vascular disease) and eyes (angioid streaks and retinal haemorrhage) are typically involved.

Answer (Question 2)

1. Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia. It presents as pink, purple, or deep-red domed shaped nodules on the scalp, around the ears, and on the neck. Nodules may be solitary, or they may be multiple and discrete or confluent. Some lesions may present clinically as subcutaneous nodules. Nodules of angiolymphoid hyperplasia are more frequent in middle-age women.
2. Histologically, the lesions are predominately intradermal and appear as ill-defined, lobulated masses composed of numerous variably sized vascular channels. The vessels are lined by large endothelial cells with markedly histiocytoid appearances. There is an eosinophilic infiltrate in the surrounding stroma.
3. Blood eosinophilia is present in 10-15% of the patients.