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Baboon syndrome due to amoxicillin: an unusual complication

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Clinical Image

Description

A 30-year-old man, with no known medical conditions or history of allergies, was prescribed Amoxicillin after a common dental extraction. On the same day he rapidly developed a hitching maculopapular rash on his buttock, genitals and inguinal area (Figure 1).

Clinical presentation and cutaneous biopsy were consistent with Baboon Syndrome equally known as Symmetrical Drug-Related Intertriginous and Flexural Exanthema (SDRIFE). Amoxicillin was discontinued and the patient treated with a short course of systemic and topical steroids experiencing full recovery.

SDRIFE is an uncommon drug-related rash occurring hours to days after exposure to the offending drug, that classically presents as a V-shaped well demarcated erythema in the gluteal, inguinal and peri-genital area (green arrows). Amoxicillin and other antibiotics (mostly beta-lactams) are often involved, but many other drugs have also been implicated. As for our patient, treatment usually includes discontinuing the suspected drug and use of topical and/or systemic corticosteroids.



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Figure 1: Symmetrical Drug-Related Intertriginous and Flexural Exanthema due to Amoxicillin