

A “Tattoo” of Erythema Multiforme

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Fig. 1. Hyperpigmentation in a pseudo-geometric pattern over the back.



Fig. 2. Similar hyperpigmentation over the upper limbs

Question: What do you see in these photographs?

- 1) Staining from henna use
- 2) Polynesian tattoo
- 3) Hyperpigmentation following erythema multiforme

(answer: on the last page of this issue)

A 48-year-old woman of Indian ethnicity presented one year prior with cutaneous and oral erythematous target lesions associated with fever. This was diagnosed as erythema multiforme of unknown origin and she was treated with intravenous steroids. The lesions healed within 2 weeks, leaving hyperpigmentation in a pseudo-geometric pattern. Erythema multiforme lesions are known to cause alterations in skin color. The cutaneous lesions in this patient are reminiscent of Polynesian tattoos.

REFERENCES

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