# An Unusual Cause of Hyperkeratosis

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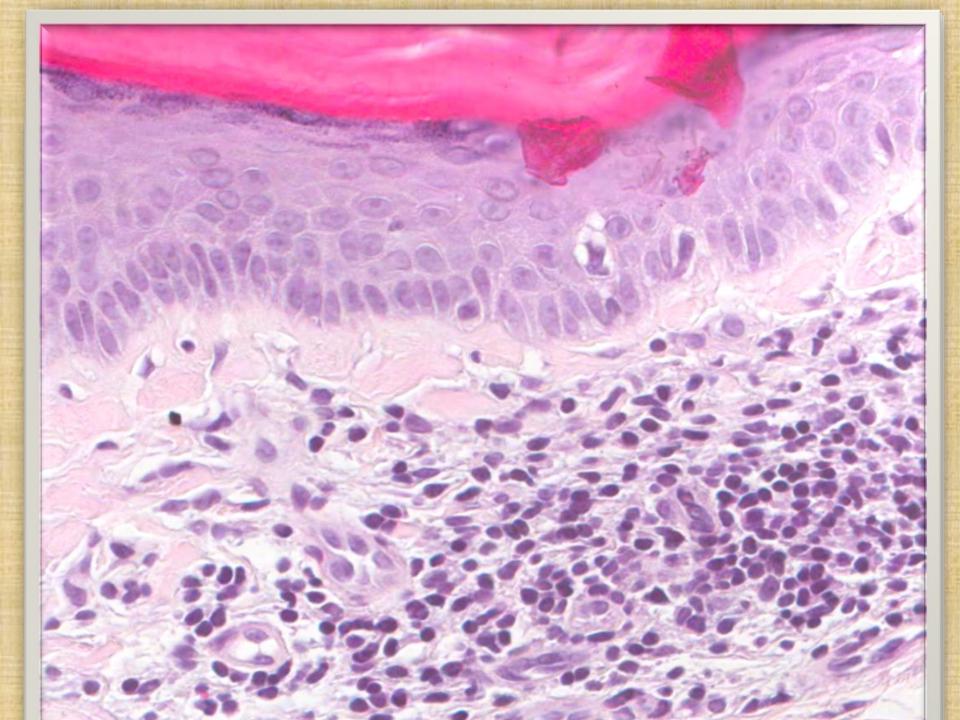
#### **Clinical Presentation**

- 43-year-old
- Two and a half year history
- Pink/light brown papules, some of which appeared scaly and keratotic
- Started on her ankle and lower legs and spread to her thighs, arms and neck

#### **Clinical Presentation**



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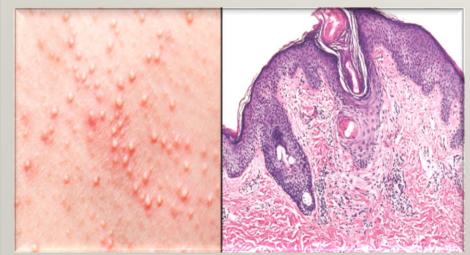


### **Differential Diagnosis**

- 1) Keratosis pilaris
- 2) Lichen planus
- 3) Hyperkeratosis follicularis et parafollicularis in cutem pentetrans (Kyrle's disease)
- 4) Hyperkeratosis lenticularis perstans (Flegel's disease)
- 5) Lichenoid drug reaction

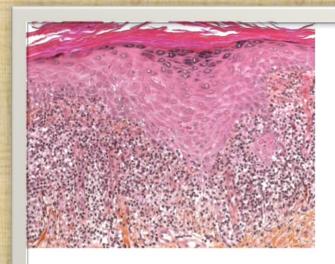
### Keratosis Pilaris<sup>1</sup>

- Peak in adolescence
- Association with ichthyosis vulgaris
- Pruritic, follicular papules & pustules
- Lateral aspect arms & thighs
- Histology follicular dilatation & keratin plugs
- May contain distorted hair shafts



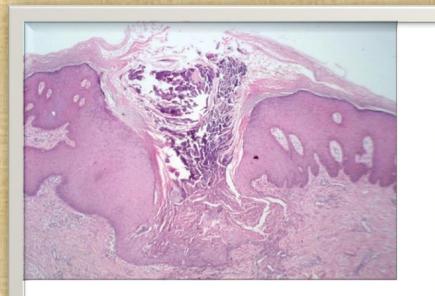
### Lichen Planus<sup>3</sup>

- Violaceous papules
- Intensely pruritic
- Flexor aspects wrists & forearms, extensor aspects hand & ankles
- Histology Interface dermatitis
- Irregular acanthosis
- (Wedge-shaped) Hypergranulosis



### Kyrle's Disease <sup>5</sup>

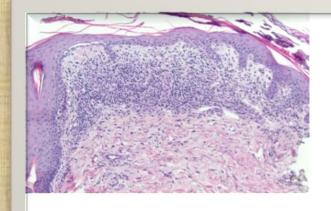
- Similar clinical presentation to our patient (age, gender, distribution), palms & soles classically spared
- Histology- epidermal invagination containing keratotic plug & basophilic debris
- Eventual perforation into dermis with associated foreign-body reaction & subsequent transepidermal elimination



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### Lichenoid Drug Reaction <sup>7</sup>

- Clinically similar presentation to lichen planus
- Gold, anti-malarials, penicillamine, captopril, β-blockers, TNF-α inhibitors
- May be a long latent period between starting the drug & development of a rash
- Histology similar to lichen planus



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- Hyperkeratosis lenticularis perstans described in 1958
- M=F, 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> decade
- Characterised by protracted clinical course (years to decades)
- Most cases sporadic, some evidence of AD inheritance in a subset of cases
- Unknown aetiology

- Large numbers, small, discreet, grey/greybrown/red-brown, circular papules with a well-developed scale
- Dorsum of foot, lower legs, upper arms, pinnae, buttocks, trunk, dorsal aspects of hands, palms & soles
- Removal of the scale associated with pinpoint bleeding

Histologically characterised by focal areas of abnormal hyperkeratinisation (sharp cut-off from adjacent epidermis)

- Hyperkeratosis
- Occasional parakeratosis
- Epidermal atrophy
- Loss of granular cell layer
- Lichenoid/perivascular chronic inflammatory infiltrate in papillary dermis
- Basal vacuolar degeneration, occasional cytoid bodies

- A number of treatments have been used with varying degrees of response
- At present all of these are considered unsatisfactory due to high rates of recurrence<sup>10</sup>



### References

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## Questions?

