

Clinical Image

Transient Periorbital Amyloidosis

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A 55-year-old man with a longstanding history of psoriasis using methotrexate, presented to the Dermatology unit. He was switched to ustekinumab for the past four years, with significant improvement. While on ustekinumab, he developed periorbital purpura of the eyelids (Figure 1). Without any history of trauma, amyloidosis was suspected. Urine and serum protein electrophoresis revealed an IgA lambda monoclonal gammopathy. His oncologist discontinued the ustekinumab and resumed methotrexate 17.5 mg weekly. After 12 weeks, lesions gradually disappear. To date, periorbital purpura resolved.

Systemic light chain Amyloidosis (AL) is a clonal, nonproliferative plasma cell disorder in which fragments of immunoglobulin are



Figure 1: Patient shows bilateral Periorbital purpura, representing a localized type of AL Amyloidosis.

deposited in tissues. Iatrogenic amyloidosis is a rare condition; there are reports after the use of insulin and viral protein mimetics [1,2]. However, there are no reported cases of iatrogenic amyloidosis associated with the use of ustekinumab. It is still unclear whether AL developed in response to ustekinumab or discontinuing methotrexate.

References

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