

Allergic contact dermatitis due to epirubicin

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Case Report

A 73-year-old man with bladder cancer, who had previously been treated with intravesical mitomycin, developed a widespread dermatitis 12 h after his 1st instillation of Farmorubicina® (epirubicin). A patch test with epirubicin 0.1% aq. was positive, the European standard series negative.

Comment

Mitomycin has previously been reported as a contact allergen (1–4). This case raises the question as to

whether there might be cross-sensitivity between mitomycin and epirubicin.

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Pigmented contact dermatitis due to *Plathymenia foliosa* dust

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Key words: pigmented contact dermatitis; plants; phytophototoxic; Leguminosae; *Plathymenia foliosa*; airborne; occupational; carpenter. © Munksgaard, 1999.

The vinhático (*Plathymenia foliosa*) is a tropical tree of the Leguminosae family that is native to Brazil.

Case Report

A 35-year-old carpenter had a 3-year history of pigmented lesions on the face, trunk, neck and hands after protracted contact with vinhático. There were brown areas on the forehead (Fig. 1), cheeks, temples, chin, neck and dorsa of the hands. A biopsy from a pigmented facial lesion showed chronic lichenoid dermatitis with

pigmentary incontinence. Patch and photopatch tests with a standard series and *Plathymenia foliosa* dust were negative, but after 10 weeks, the patient noted pigmentation in the area where we had applied the powder.

Discussion

The vinhático (*Plathymenia foliosa*) tree is frequent in Brazil and can reach a magnificent size and beauty. It is used in naval and civil construction and traditionally in furniture manufacture (1). It belongs to the Leguminosae family and is therefore believed to contain furocoumarins (psoralens), which can produce phototoxic reactions (2). Our patient developed pigmented lesions in photo-exposed areas after occupational exposure to vinhático dust as a carpenter. The photopatch test reproduced the pigmentation 10 weeks later. Hyperpigmentation following phototoxicity is well-described (3).

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Fig. 1. Pigmented lesions on the forehead.