Syphilitic balanitis...is it an atypical presentation of Syphilis?
Aim

To investigate the hypothesis that a number of cases of balanitis seen in our clinic were related to Syphilis
Background

First described by Dr Eugene Follman in 1948

0.3-0.5% of cases of Syphilis

Erosive balanitis with associated inguinal lymphadenopathy
Balanitis of Follman
Methods

Retrospective review of case notes for males coded as A1, A2 or A3 who attended in 2017

Literature search for case reports performed

123 references were reviewed based on search strategy using Embase, CINAHL and PubMed
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Results</th>
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<tr>
<td>25/112 (22%) of patients had balanitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 treated for fungal balanitis</td>
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<td>7 treated for HSV</td>
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<td>1 treated for anaerobic balanitis</td>
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<td>92% had RPR &gt;1:32</td>
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<td>67% with A1 and 32% with A2</td>
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<td>Resolution of balanitis with Benzathine</td>
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Demographics

- 21/25 MSM
- 4 patients living with HIV
- 5/25 had had Syphilis in the past
- 19/25 had had a previous STI

Mean no. of partners in 1 year

- MSM 7.2
- Hetero 3
Discussion

Balanitis is a symptom of early syphilis. Delays in diagnosis contribute to onward transmission. Balanitis is a feature of primary and secondary syphilis. Dark ground negative in several case reports. TPPCR helpful in diagnosis.
Thank you

Dr Fath Alloba
Library team at RLUH
References
