

Chapter 29

Scaly Itchy Lesion of Glans Penis



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Case Presentation

Male patient 9 years old presented in the dermatologic clinic with itchy scaly lesion on his glans penis (Fig. 29.1). The lesion had history of 4 years, initially started as scaly lesions then became diffuse over the glans penis with no family history of the same lesion. On physical examination, the patient presented with whitish scales on the glans penis with slight erythema, the patient reported bleeding with minor trauma and no other associated symptoms apart of itching. There is no evidence of apparent physical lymph node enlargement. Initially the patient tried topical steroid application with remission but recurrence is often common.

Dermoscopic examination with non-contact mode revealed diffuse white scales, with application of interface media (alcohol), there is dotted blood vessels pattern arranged regularly and diffuse all over the lesion (Fig. 29.2).

Based on the case description, clinical and dermoscopic photographs, what is your diagnosis?

1. Psoriasis.
2. Eczema.
3. Bowen's disease.
4. Tinea circinate.

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Fig. 29.1 Itchy scaly lesion on the glans penis of male patient 9 years old



Diagnosis

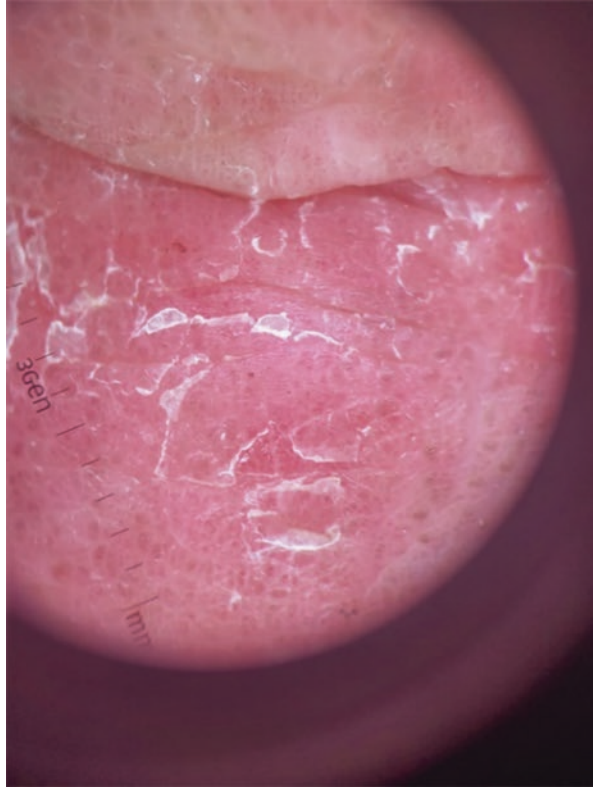
Psoriasis

Discussion

Genital psoriasis affects approximately 63% of psoriasis patients at least once in their lifetime. More than any other area on the body, genital lesions significantly impair patients' quality of life [1]. In 2–5% of psoriasis patients, lesions only occur in the genital region [2]. Genital psoriasis can occur in all age groups, from newborns to geriatric patients, with a slight predilection for younger male patients with relatively severe disease [3].

Low-to-mid-potency topical corticosteroids are the first-line treatment for genital psoriasis [4] but with special caution due to peculiar anatomy of the genitalia [5]. The most common differential diagnosis of psoriasis is eczema. Dermoscopy is a non-invasive office procedure, which facilitates the diagnosis of inflammatory skin

Fig. 29.2 Dermoscopic examination revealed diffuse white scales, with application of interface media (alcohol), there is dotted blood vessels pattern arranged regularly and diffuse all over the lesion (Dermoscopy 3gen DermLite 4, magnification 10×)



diseases. It is used for the evaluation of the type and the distribution of cutaneous blood vessels, as well as the color of the scale [6]. Dermoscopy of psoriasis is highly sensitive and specific, showing white scales with a diffuse red dots arrangement, while in eczema, the vessels have the same pattern as psoriasis but in a scattered arrangement [7].

Key Points

- Genital psoriasis affects approximately 63% of psoriasis patients.
- It affects and impairs psychological and sexual life of the patient.
- Dermoscopy is a non-invasive office procedure helping differentiation of psoriasis from other similar dermatoses as dermatitis.

References

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