MACROPHAGIC MYOFASCIITIS AFTER STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTION

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Introduction: Macrophagic myositis is a rare muscle disease described primarily as a reaction to aluminum-containing vaccines. We present the first description of a case of this entity associated with a streptococcal infection

CASE REPORT  6 years-old ♂  
- High-grade FEVER  
- Severe MYALGIA  
- ARTHRALGIA first ankles then knees and in the course of two days also involved shoulders and elbow leaving him unable to walk

Healthy
- No similar previous episodes
- No recent vaccination
- No recent travels
- TONSILLITIS TWO WEEKS EARLIER NOT TREATED

Observation
- Joints were swollen, tender and painful
- Macular rash and red nodular lesions on the anterior face of the legs

Laboratory
- Leukocytes 20800/mm³ N 86,3%
- PCR 80.2mg/L
- CK 106 U/L
- ASLO 1950UI/ml
- Antideoxyribonuclease B 749UI/ml

MRI
- Diffuse myositis of various muscles in the lower limbs, tenosynovitis on both feet and arthritis of elbows, knees and ankles

CUTANEOUS NODULAR LESIONS BIOPSY
- Intramural deposits of C3, in a dense vascular pattern. Superficial and mostly deep perivascular lymphocytic infiltrate with neutrophils and eosinophils. Erythrocyte extravasation and fibrinoid necrosis are seen in a vessel of the deep dermis
- LEUKOCYTOCLASTIC VASCULITIS

MUSCLE BIOPSY
- Presence of 3-4 foci of extensive macrophage infiltration (CD68+), preferably involving the superficial fascia and extending to a few fascicles. Absence of necrotic fibres, granulomas or abscesses


COMMENTS Macrophagic myositis occurs mainly in adults, has a more chronic course and is apparently related to aluminum exposure. We describe a severe myalgia syndrome with a histopathologic diagnosis of macrophagic myositis with only serological evidence of recent streptococcal infection. As other manifestations of the poststreptococcal syndrome, macrophagic myositis appears to be immune mediated and, as such, could be explained in this context.