CONJUNCTIVAL ULCERS- OCULAR MANIFESTATION OF BEHCET'S DISEASE

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The authors do not have any financial interest.

INTRODUCTION

- Acute red eye is one of the commonest clinical conditions encountered in routine ophthalmic out patient practice.
- It is invariably treated with topical antibiotics by general ophthalmologists.
- However, unresponsive or persistent acute red eye may be challenging to treat.
- It may be a manifestation of a systemic illness.

CASE

- CHIEF COMPLAINTS : A 33 year old male patient, farmer by occupation came with complaints of redness in both eyes since 10 days.

- HISTORY OF PRESENT ILLNESS : Patient was apparently normal 10days back then he developed redness in both eyes , which does not resolve with antibiotic drops & is associated with pain and watering.

- No H/O photophobia , itching , discharge.

- No H/O trauma.

- PAST HISTORY – H/O recurrent oral and genital ulcers .

- Patient was attending ENT clinic for dysphagia & was diagnosed to have ulcerative lesion in larynx for which biopsy was done , which suggested acute inflammation.

- No H/O DM , HTN, TB ,Stroke , Asthma.

- FAMILY HISTORY – Nil significant

- PERSONAL HISTORY – Consumes mixed diet, Bowel & bladder habits are normal , not a smoker or alcoholic

- No H/O known drug allergy

GENERAL EXAMINATION

- Patient is conscious and coherent.
- Moderately built and nourished.
- No pallor , icterus ,cyanosis, clubbing and lymphadenopathy.

SYSTEMIC EXAMINATION

- CVS – S1 , S2 heard
- RS – NVBS heard
- Abdomen – NAD
- CNS -NAD

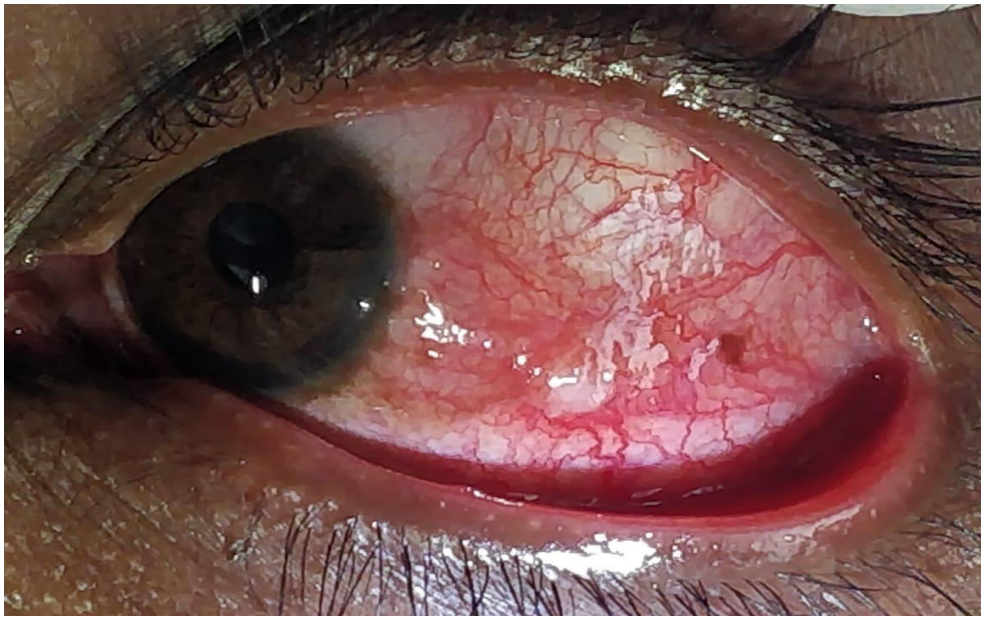
OCULAR EXAMINATION

	RIGHT EYE	LEFT EYE
VISION	6/6	6/6
ADNEXA	NORMAL	NORMAL
CONJUNCTIVA	Multiple conjunctival ulcers in the bulbar, palpebral and inter marginal conjunctiva ,2 to 3 mm in diameter with whitish necrotic floor and surrounding intense congestion.	Multiple conjunctival ulcers in the bulbar, palpebral and inter marginal conjunctiva ,2 to 3 mm in diameter with whitish necrotic floor and surrounding intense congestion
CORNEA	CLEAR	CLEAR

Contd..

OCULAR EXAMINATION

	RIGHT EYE	LEFT EYE
ANTERIOR CHAMBER	NORMAL DEPTH	NORMAL DEPTH
IRIS	NORMAL	NORMAL
PUPIL	NORMAL IN SIZE REACTING TO LIGHT	NORMAL IN SIZE REACTING TO LIGHT
LENS	CLEAR	CLEAR
FUNDUS	0.3CDR ,FR PRESENT	0.3 CDR , FR PRESENT

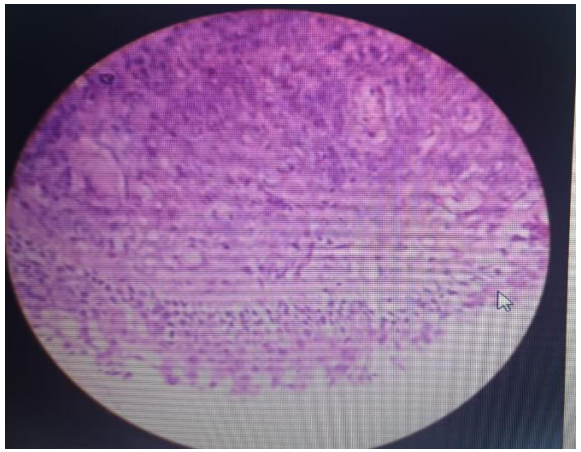


Ulcer on the bulbar conjunctiva surrounded by intense congestion with whitish necrotic floor

Ulcers on the marginal and palpebral conjunctiva

INVESTIGATIONS

- Complete blood count – Normal
- ESR- slightly raised , value is 20 mm/hr
- Renal function tests – Normal
- HLA –B51 - Positive
- Laryngeal biopsy- Inflammatory lesion



Biopsy of the larynx showing inflammatory lesion

MANAGEMENT

➢Patient was treated with following medications

•Lubricating eye drops – 4 times a day

• Topical NSAID drops 4 times a day

•Topical Gatifloxacin drops was continued 2 times a day.

• Oral Ciprofloxacin and NSAIDS



Pictures of the healed conjunctival ulcers after treatment

DISCUSSION

- Behcet's disease is a multi-system, relapsing illness with muco cutaneous, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, ocular, neurological, vascular, articular inflammation.

- It is diagnosed by ISG for Behcet's criteria. Recurrent oral ulcers plus any 2 of the following – recurrent genital ulcers , skin involvement , ocular inflammation , positive pathergy test.

- Ocular inflammation like Uveitis or vasculitis are included under minor criteria.

- Recurrent aphthous ulcers may be present over entire GIT including larynx & pharynx.

- Conjunctival ulcers may be seen on the bulbar conjunctiva, limbus, or palpebral conjunctiva as seen in this patient.

- The occurence of conjunctival ulcers is considered as an uncommon manifestation by some authors while it was found to be 26.3% by an Indian study.

CONCLUSION

- Conjunctival ulceration should be noted as an uncommon but possible manifestation of Behcet's disease.

- Accordingly , routine detailed examination of the conjunctiva is recommended in a case of acute red eye.

- Early and effective treatment is required to prevent ocular morbidity.

THANK YOU