

Value of Erythema Nodosum in Making the Diagnosis

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Many books stress on causes like sarcoidosis, where the patient may present with Erythema Nodosum. My experience of children with rheumatic fever is limited since I do not see paediatric patients.

The following are the common illnesses where Erythema Nodosum is seen.

1. Tuberculosis is the first condition to be

excluded in such patients.

2. The second condition, where erythema nodosum is seen is Connective Tissue Disorders like Behcet's Disease.

3. In the last few years on 3 occasions I have found this presentation in HIV positive patients. The best policy is to get HIV test done in all patients presenting with Erythema Nodosum.

Often the nodules of Erythema Nodosum are not red (they change colours), but pain and tenderness in these nodules is more important.

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ACCURACY OF CT COLONOGRAPHY FOR DETECTION OF LARGE ADENOMAS AND CANCERS

Computed tomographic (CT) colonography is a noninvasive option in screening for colorectal cancer. However, its accuracy as a screening tool in asymptomatic adults has not been well defined.

CT colonographic screening identified 90% of subjects with adenomas or cancers measuring 10 mm or more in diameter. These findings augment published data on the role of CT colonography in screening patients with an average risk of colorectal cancer.

N Engl J Med, 2008; 359 : 1207.