



## 2021 Annual Spring Virtual Meeting | Abstract Submission

### **Neutrophilic dermatosis of the dorsal hands in the setting of polycythemia vera**

Kiley K Fagan MD, Mohammad A Nimer MD, Patrick S Rush DO, Padma V Chitnavis MD

*Carilion Clinic Dermatology*

An 89-year-old, Caucasian male presented with a three-week history of purple blisters on the backs of his hands. The lesions appeared abruptly and were painful, enlarging, and had recently spread to both elbows. Physical examination revealed eroded, juicy, violaceous nodules and plaques with central hemorrhagic crusting on the dorsal and lateral hands and elbows. H&E revealed papillary dermal edema and a diffuse, sheet-like, neutrophilic, inflammatory infiltrates consistent with Sweet's syndrome. The patient was treated with an oral prednisone taper and topical triamcinolone 0.1% cream with almost complete resolution in three weeks.

Neutrophilic dermatosis of the dorsal hands is a rare subtype of Sweet's syndrome. The most common underlying causes include myeloproliferative disorders, visceral malignancies, pregnancy, inflammatory bowel disease, medication reactions, and connective tissue diseases.<sup>1</sup> This patient had a seven-year history of polycythemia vera treated with hydroxyurea, and a malignancy workup, including bone marrow biopsy, was negative. There is only one case report of neutrophilic dermatosis of the dorsal hands caused by polycythemia vera in the literature,<sup>1</sup> and there are few reports of typical Sweet's syndrome in the setting of polycythemia vera.

1. de Vasconcelos P, Soares-Almeida L, Filipe P. Neutrophilic dermatosis of the dorsal hands in a patient with polycythemia vera. *Acta Dermatovenerol Alp Pannonica Adriat.* 2013;22(2):53-4. PMID: 23836360.