Childhood Linear Focal Elastosis

A 12-year-old boy presented with asymptomatic linear skin lesions over the back. There was no history of exercise, trauma, excessive or rapid weight gain or loss, and topical or systemic drug use. Examination showed multiple transverse, slightly elevated, yellow streaks of varying lengths over back (Fig. 1). A diagnosis of linear focal elastosis (LFE) was made. Parents were counselled and no specific therapy was initiated.

LFE is a benign condition characterised by asymptomatic yellowish, palpable linear striae over middle and lower back. LFE classically occurs in older males and has rarely been reported in children less than 15 years. Exact pathogenesis is not known, though both degeneration and regeneration of elastic fibres is thought to contribute towards skin lesions. Differential diagnosis includes striae distensae which are white to pink coloured depressed skin lesions over abdomen, thigh and arms. Systemic associations have not been reported, and no treatment is usually required.

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Fig. 1 Childhood linear focal elastosis.

BOOK REVIEW

Till We Win
India’s Fight Against The Covid-19 Pandemic
CHANDRAKANT LAHARIYA, GAGANDEEP KANG AND RANDEEP GULERIA
M/s. Penguin Random House, Gurgaon, Haryana, India.
Pages: 308; Price: Rs. 299/-

A unique combination of authors (vaccine researcher, pulmonologist-cum-medical administrator and public health expert) has resulted in the publication of a well-edited paperback on COVID-19. The contents are appealing and addressed to not only the medical fraternity but also to the lay public.

Scientific facts on the epidemiology of the disease, lockdown, treatment options, vaccines and more importantly true versions of frontline workers’ experience make the book very interesting and compelling to read. Detailed accounts of coordinated response by the government in tackling the pandemic in India have been elaborated comprehensively. The lessons learnt from the pandemic by the government, public health experts, healthcare workers and the common man have been described extremely well.

Practical tips on guidelines to follow after recovery and adjustments to the new normal state are very useful for the readers. The suggestions for strengthening our public health system are thought-provoking, and need serious consideration by the governmental agencies for early implementation.

From the pediatrician’s point of view, one might feel that the impact of the pandemic on child health has not been adequately dealt with, more so because there is no discussion on MIS-C/PIMS-TS; although, this should not discourage them from going through this very well-written book.

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