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Lucio phenomenon: Neglected leprosy reaction

Prasetyadi Mawardi^{1,2}

¹Sebelas Maret University, Indonesia

²Dr. Moewardi General Hospital, Indonesia

Leprosy can be caused by an infection of *Mycobacterium leprae* commonly acquired through contact with an infected person. *M. leprae* multiplies slowly and the incubation period of the disease, on average, is 5 years. In some cases, symptoms may occur within 1 year but can also take as long as 20 years to occur. Clinical presentation depends on the patients' immune status at the time of infection and during the course of disease. Leprosy is spread by person to person contact. Although the most important route is unclear, it is believed that *M. leprae* is spread either through the inhalation of infectious aerosols or through skin contact with respiratory secretions and wound exudates. Numerous *M. leprae* are found in the nasal secretions of patients with lepromatous leprosy. Lucio phenomenon is a special type of reactions observed in uniformly diffuse shiny infiltrative non nodular form of LL. The etiopathogenesis is less well understood. *M. leprae* are found unusually in large numbers in the endothelial cells of superficial blood vessels and this finding may be responsible for the serious vascular complications seen during the reactive phase. Leprosy patients tend to have leprosy reactions based on immune response patterns that occur and depend on these mechanisms further subcategorized. There is marked vasculitis and thrombosis of the superficial and deep vessel resulting in hemorrhage and infarctions of the skin.

Biography

Prasetyadi Mawardi is an Active Staff and Lecturer in Department of Dermatology and Venereology in Dr. Moewardi General Hospital/Medical Faculty of Sebelas Maret University in Surakarta, Indonesia. He has completed his Graduation as a Dermatovenereologist from Diponegoro University in Semarang, Indonesia. His major interests include cosmetic medic, skin tumor, skin surgery, acne, aging, laser and light modality and tropical dermatology also dermatopathology. He has achieved his Doctoral (PhD) studies from Brawijaya University in Malang, Indonesia. He not only often acts as a Speaker and Lecturer in national and international dermatology forum, but also actively publishes his research and reviews in some international journals.

prasetyadimawardi@yahoo.com

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