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The dermoscopic story of targetoid hemosiderotic hemangioma, also known as hobnail haemangioma

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Targetoid hemosiderotic hemangioma (THH), also known as hobnail haemangioma, is a benign, solitary, targetoid vascular neoplasm occurring predominantly on the proximal extremities and trunk. Most patients exhibit a typical, targetoid haemangioma, whereby a small, solitary, purple and/or brown papule is surrounded by an ecchymotic ring that can expand or subsequently disappear with persistence of the central papule. The halo, however, is not a constant finding, thus the term hobnail haemangioma was coined to describe the non-targetoid variant of THH. Duration of the lesions ranges from 1 month to 20 years. During this time, THH may undergo episodic and cyclic changes in morphology. Dermoscopy has been scarcely used in the diagnosis of THH. Here we describe our cases of targetoid hemosiderotic hemangioma, and study their monthly changing dermoscopic findings to show that this technique could be useful in the monitoring and differential diagnosis of this scarcely reported entity.

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Multi-facet immune-modifying activities of specific phytochemicals from medicinal herbs

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Recent studies showed that a spectrum of innate immune responses, various immune cell types and their cross-talks, and the associated inflammatory activities are involved with many different types of diseases. These findings strongly suggest that, by modulating specific immune cell responses or appropriately suppressing defined inflammatory activities of targeted diseases, we may design new approaches for therapy or treatment of certain inflammatory and chronic diseases, e.g., colitis, dermatitis, IBD and some cancers. Interesting, it's well known and appreciated that traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), especially some commonly used medicinal herbs, claimed with functional specificity (e, g., anti-dermatitis promote tissue-wound healing), and routinely used historically for hundreds to thousands of years, have been established for their "strong anti-inflammatory" activities toward specific organ targets.

With the observations and understandings, my laboratory has investigated a group of phytoextracts or the derived pure phytochemicals from specific TCM plants, and evaluated their bioactivities/effects, *in vitro* and *in vivo*, on dendritic cells, MDSCs, Tregs and other immune cell types in mouse models of skin inflammation, colitis and tumor metastasis systems. Experimentally, we employed functional genomics, proteomics, transgenic promoter analysis, cytokine/chemokine profiling, micro RNA array and signaling pathway analysis systems in cross-examination studies. Results and findings, published in eight key papers during the past five years will be discussed and projected for future research directions.

The key lesson we learned from these studies and studies: Highly specific cellular, molecular and signaling pathway effect on mouse and human dendritic cells, tumor stromal cells, skin tissue cells can be obtained by specific phytochemicals from TCM, contributing to potent inflammatory-modulatory activities in test animals of disease models.

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