

Hey Doc! I think I'm allergic to my sweat!

Fox-Fordyce as a diagnostic challenge of hidradenitis suppurativa

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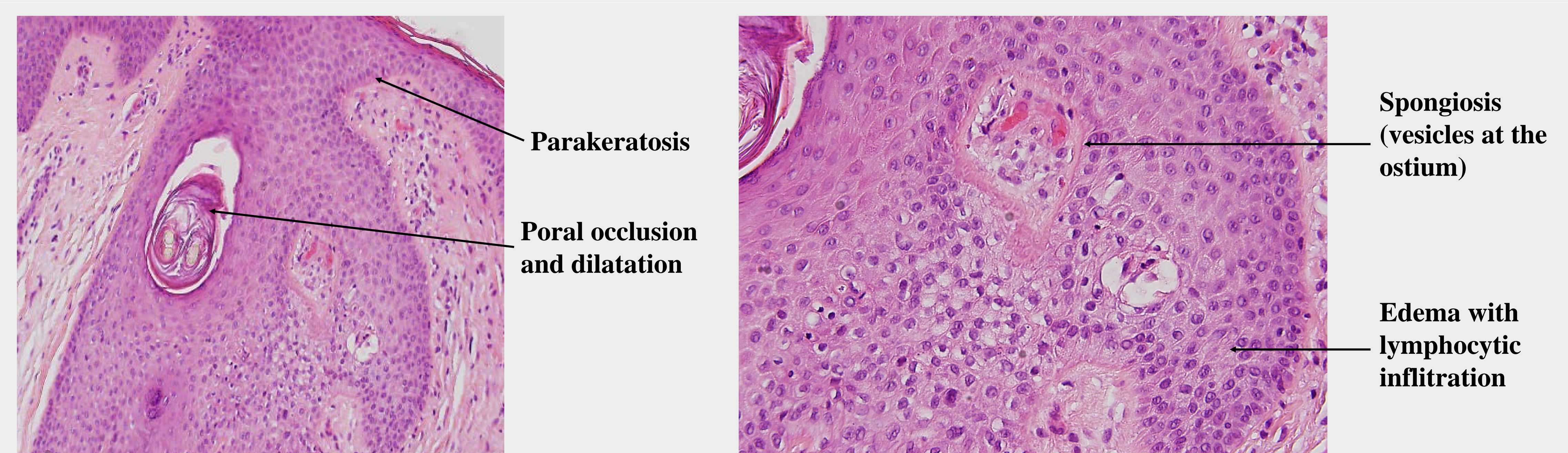
We report the case of a 14 years old young female patient

- No medical or familial history
- Diffuse and highly pruriginous microcysts in her armpits since she was ten.



A skin biopsy was performed :

- The histology was mainly characterized by:
 - a follicular occlusion with parakeratosis and hyperkeratosis
 - lymphocytes exocytosis with vesicles at the ostium of the apocrine sudoral duct.
- Compatible with a diagnosis of **Fox-Fordyce disease**



- The intense pruritis reported by the patient was resistant to topical steroids and systemic anti-histaminics
- An improvement was observed with topical tacrolimus.

Discussion

- Fox-Fordyce disease is a **very rare cutaneous eruption** composed of multiple and small raised yellowish or reddish papules located symmetrically in the apocrine glands bearing areas.
- The armpits are the most frequently affected area.
- The main symptom reported by patients is the intense pruritis.
- The disease is **more frequently observed in women** and triggering factors include the chronic use of deodorant and repeated frictions.
- The histopathology of Fox-Fordyce lesions shares **common characteristics with HS** lesions such poral and follicular occlusions.