



CLINICAL IMAGE IN GASTROENTEROLOGY

The sign of Leser-Trélat associated with rectal carcinoma[☆]



Signo de Leser-Trélat con carcinoma de recto

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The sign of Leser-Trélat is characterized by the sudden manifestation and rapid growth in size and number of multiple seborrheic keratoses, related to an underlying neoplasia. A 57-year-old man, with a 4-month progression of changes in bowel habit, complained of thin stools and occasional rectal bleeding; one year earlier, an increasing number of skin lesions suddenly appeared on his back. Colonoscopy revealed a circumferential lesion 13 cm from the anal margin (Fig. 1) and the histopathologic study reported adenocarcinoma. Multiple dermal lesions appeared on the patient's back (Fig. 2); they were biopsied, and the reported result was seborrheic keratosis (Fig. 3).

The sign of Leser-Trélat is defined as the abrupt appearance and rapid increase in size or number of multiple seborrheic keratoses associated with a cancer. The sudden presentation of a large number of pigmented seborrheic keratoses should alert the clinician to rule out other entities and associations with neoplasia. Diagnosis of the skin lesions is confirmed through biopsy.



Figure 1 Colonoscopy showing a friable lesion with irregular edges, 13 cm from the anal margin, with a histopathologic diagnosis of adenocarcinoma.

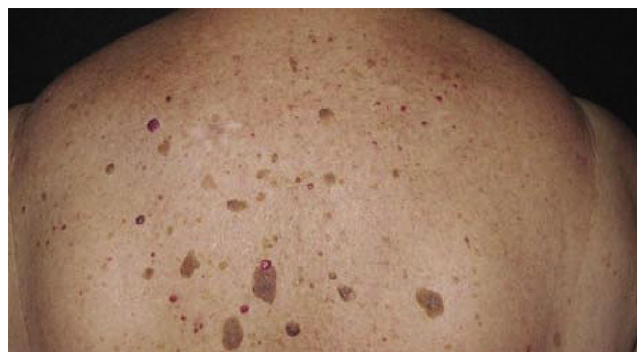


Figure 2 Dermal lesions on the back (seborrheic keratoses).

[☆] Please cite this article as: Martínez-Hernández Magro P, Jaime Báez-García JJ, Báez-Aviña J. Signo de Leser-Trélat con carcinoma de recto. Revista de Gastroenterología de México. 2014;79:294–295.

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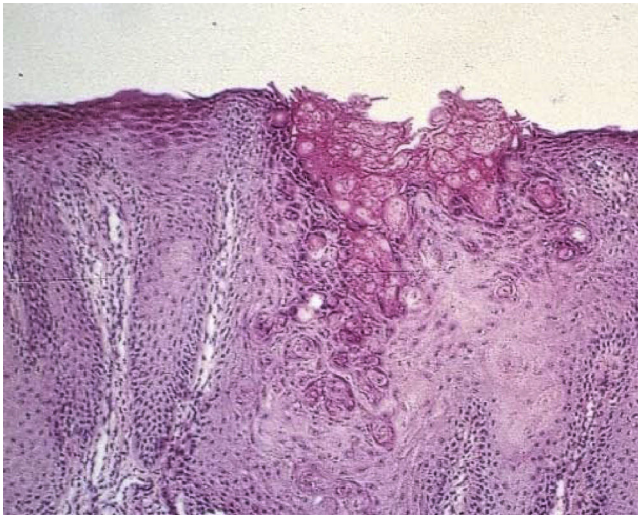


Figure 3 Biopsy of the lesions corroborating seborrheic keratosis.

Financial disclosure

No financial support was received in relation to this article.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.