

etiopathology in order to facilitate precise management. This disorder may be the morphologic presentation of a variety of cutaneous and systemic diseases, and a thorough workup is essential. A pre-existing dermatosis is the single most common cause of adult erythroderma. Pathogenesis of acute skin failure involves failure of the skin to perform its multiple functions which would result in the potentially fatal syndrome of acute skin failure. This case report underscores the importance of understanding the etiopathogenesis of various systemic complications of acute skin failure which require prompt treatment. Speculative mechanisms for complications of acute skin failure and the implications for clinical practice are discussed.

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POSTERIOR CIRCULATION
STROKE IS GREAT MIMICKER

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INTRODUCTION

Posterior circulation infarct is a debilitating disease and often easily missed as it may mimic any peripheral causes of vertigo.

REPORT

A 61 years old lady with underlying diabetes mellitus and hypertension presented with symptom of vertigo for nearly two hours before she decided to come to the Emergency Department. It was associated with nausea and vomiting and she could not walk due to it. On examination, the Dix-Hallpike test was positive on the right side. Cerebellar signs were not elicited and there was no focal neurological

deficit. Blood investigations were reported to be normal. Her symptom of vertigo improved after administering intravenous prochlorperazine and she was subsequently discharged with a scheduled follow up. However, fourteen hours later, she returned with worsening of vertigo and a deteriorating GCS requiring airway protection.

DISCUSSION

There exists a dilemma when differentiating a central or peripheral cause of vertigo. When a stroke which is one of the central causes of vertigo is missed, the consequences can be profound. Therefore, a non-invasive 3 steps bedside clinical examination like HINTS test (Head Impulse-Nystagmus-Test of Skew) should be practiced in every patient that presents with vertigo. As reported by one study, it is 100% sensitive and 96% specific for detecting posterior circulation stroke.

CONCLUSION

A high index of suspicion of posterior circulation infarct should always be raised in patients with persistent, unresolved vertigo. The HINTS test is capable to distinguish between stroke and other peripheral causes of vertigo as it has a high sensitivity and specificity.

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SWEET CHILD OF MINE

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INTRODUCTION

This is the case of a pediatric patient with diabetic ketoacidosis whom symptoms were undetected on her initial visit to ED.