PRACTICAL DERMOSCOPY

Unilateral Digital Hyperpigmentation in a Teenager

Hiperpigmentación digital unilateral en adolescente

Case Presentation

A 14-year-old boy presented with brown pigmentation on the tip of the third finger of the left hand that had first appeared 4 months earlier. The lesion was asymptomatic and had remained stable over time (Fig. 1).

What Is Your Diagnosis?

Comment

Polarized light dermoscopy of the brown macule revealed multiple irregular light brown-reddish spots ("pebbles") located mainly on the ridges of the skin markings. The lesions were highly suggestive of subcorneal hemorrhage (Fig. 2).

Figure 1 Brown macule on the third finger of the left hand.

Figure 2 Multiple irregular reddish-brown spots ("pebbles"). The spots were mainly distributed on the ridges of the skin markings.

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can show a great variety of patterns and can mimic multiple lesions, but the presence of blackish-reddish or brown coloring can provide a clue regarding the correct diagnosis. Another finding suggestive of subcorneal hematoma is the disappearance of the lesion with superficial scraping.

Excessive video game use has been associated with the appearance of blisters, onycholysis, and acral subcorneal hemorrhage on the tips of fingers that repeatedly operate the video game controller. Such lesions were first described in the thumb but have since been reported in other fingers, as in our patient. Similar lesions caused by intensive mobile telephone use have been reported in teenagers.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

References


