Image of the week

Flagellate dermatitis caused by *shiitake*†

Dermatitis flagelada por *shiitake*

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64-year-old healthy male was seen for a pruritic rash on the trunk that had been progressing over the previous 2 days. As relevant history, he commented that 2 days before the onset of the lesions he had had dinner at a Japanese restaurant, where he had ingested a mushroom soup. On physical examination, he presented erythematous plaques in a linear arrangement (Fig. 1) and pseudovesicular surface, distributed on the abdomen, mammary region (Fig. 2), shoulder and left hip (Fig. 3). Upon diagnostic suspicion of flagellate dermatitis caused by *shiitake* (*Lentinus edodes*), a symptomatic treatment with topical corticosteroids and oral antihistamines was started. The lesions improved and were completely resolved in 7 days.

*Shiitake* dermatitis is a toxic reaction that appears 24–48 hours after ingesting the raw or undercooked mushroom. The main differential diagnosis should be established with the flagellate eruption of dermatomyositis or bleomycin-induced dermatitis. The treatment of *shiitake* dermatitis is symptomatic and the symptoms do not reoccur if the mushroom is consumed properly cooked. The popularity acquired by Asian food is causing the cases of flagellate dermatitis after the consumption of *shiitake* to appear more frequently in our setting.

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