

Remitting Seronegative Symmetrical Synovitis with Pitting Edema (RS3PE) Syndrome Association With Acute Compartment Syndrome

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Abstract

This 54 year old man had a sudden onset of dorsal hands and feet swelling in November 2006. A few days after completion of treatment, the patient was admitted to our unit. At physical examination, there was swelling of the wrists, ankles, dorsal hands and feet with pitting edema. In particular, there was sign of diffuse, symmetrical, and blanching discoloration followed by cyanosis of the extremities. His clinical history was unremarkable. An early diagnosis of RS3PE with acute compartment syndrome was made and treatment with methylprednisolone 80 mg/day and nimesulide 100 mg bid was started. The signs and symptoms resolved completely after few days. RS3PE is associated with different rheumatologic and neoplastic diseases, typically in elderly men. Clinical examination usually allows for diagnosis of RS3PE, but the diagnostic gap between determination of RS3PE and clinical findings requires MRI imaging to establish the final diagnosis. Although the RS3PE syndrome appeared as a well characterized entity, in the recent research

demonstrated that it can represent the inaugural form of various types of rheumatic diseases and paraneoplastic conditions in the elderly. Although RS3PE was a rare disease, as rheumatologist perspective view, we should always keep in mind that it was one of the possibility presenting with polyarthritis in our daily clinical practice.