Cotton wool-like plaques due to Candida in ulcerative colitis

A 62-year-old man with a long history of ulcerative colitis and who was taking 2250mg of mesalazine and 50mg of azathioprine daily, developed intermittent abdominal pain and prolonged diarrhea. After 5 weeks of treatment with prednisolone, he developed high fever and abdominal colic pain. He was referred to our hospital with a suspicion of exacerbated ulcerative colitis. A physical examination revealed a man in acute distress with mild tenderness to palpation in the mid abdomen. Oral prednisolone was prescribed at a dose that was to be gradually decreased from 80mg. After 5 weeks, when the dose of prednisolone had decreased to 30mg, he developed high fever and abdominal colic pain. In his stool examination, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Clostridium difficile, and some Candida species were present. Serum cytomegalovirus (CMV) antigen was also positive. Colonoscopy revealed multiple ulcers, marked granular change, and edema throughout the colon. White plaques as well as cotton wool-like plaques on a background of inflamed mucosa were seen in the transverse colon (Fig. 1a). The lesions seemed to be an aggregation of filaments when magnified (under narrow-band imaging).

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_CCL_1AD_2AZ

Competing interests: None

Yasuteru Fujino1, Yoshifumi Takaoka1, Naoki Muguruma1, Miwako Kagawa2, Toshiya Okahisa1, Mika Sakaki2, Tetsuji Takayama1

1 Department of Gastroenterology and Oncology, The University of Tokushima Graduate School, Tokushima, Japan
2 Division of Pathology, Tokushima University Hospital, Tokushima, Japan

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DOI http://dx.doi.org/10.1055/s-0034-1390841
Endoscopy 2015; 47: E61
© Georg Thieme Verlag KG Stuttgart · New York
ISSN 0013-726X

Corresponding author

Naoki Muguruma, MD, PhD
Department of Gastroenterology and Oncology
The University of Tokushima Graduate School
3-18-15 Kuramoto-cho
Tokushima city 770-8503
Japan
Fax: +81-88-6339235
muguruma.clin.med@gmail.com

Fujino Yasuteru et al. Candida in ulcerative colitis... Endoscopy 2015; 47: E61