Fixed Drug Eruption due to Cotrimexasole

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Sir:

We would like to stress that fixed drug eruption associated with cotrimexasole was reported by us in January 1987 [1]. The report by Bahrije et al. [2] in the February 1988 issue of *Dermatologica* therefore cannot be seen as the first report of fixed drug eruption associated with cotrimoxasole administration.

In our patients, inhibition of the macrophage migration in vitro was negative using cotrimoxasole. However, the mast cell degranulation test with rat mast cells, performed by modification of the method of Schwartz et al. [3]. was positive. According to this result and the relatively rapid reappearance of the allergic reaction after introduction of the drug, we suggested that reaginic hypersensitivity rather than cell-mediated reaction is the mechanism responsible for the fixed drug eruption in similar patients. Since the mast cell degranulation test, when performed only with trimethoprim. was negative, it seems that the sulfamethoxazole component is most probably responsible for the observed reaction.

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