Multiple Keratoacanthomas Associated with Chronic Renal Failure and Hemodialysis

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Fig. 1. Three keratoacanthoma lesions on the forearms.

A few months ago a 50-year-old man on maintenance hemodialysis started developing pruriginous, slowly growing verrucous and greyish tumours on his forearms. The lesions were 0.5-1.5 cm in size and some of them showed a central depression filled with crusty material (fig. 1). Histologically, a picture of keratoacanthoma was found. Skin tests with bacterial and mycotic allergens (tuberculin, streptococci, staphylococci, trichophytin, candidin) were negative. There was no response to DNCB. The number of circulating T lymphocytes was decreased.

Lymphocyte transformation with non-specific mitogens (phytohaemagglutinin, concanavalin, pokeweed) was diminished. There was spontaneous regression of existing tumours while new keratoacanthomas appeared.