

## Prominent Ridged Nail Deformity in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

Masami Matsumura<sup>1</sup>, Yasunori Suzuki<sup>2</sup>, Masakazu Yamagishi<sup>3</sup> and Mitsuhiro Kawano<sup>2</sup>

**Key words:** nail deformity, systemic lupus erythematosus

(Intern Med 51: 1283-1284, 2012)

(DOI: 10.2169/internalmedicine.51.7325)



**Picture.**

A 26-year-old woman presented with a 9-month history of nail deformities, a 6-month history of morning stiffness, and a 3-month history of fever. Physical examination revealed polyarthritis, and transverse and longitudinal convexity, resulting in prominent ridged nail deformities in index (Picture A) and small fingers. Laboratory examination revealed leukopenia, low complement levels, and positive reactions for serum antinuclear, anti-double-stranded DNA, anti-Sm, and antiphospholipid antibodies. Systemic lupus erythematosus was diagnosed. After the diagnosis, headache and altered mental status developed. Magnetic resonance im-

aging revealed multiple infarctions in the cerebrum and cerebellum. Treatment with systemic glucocorticoids for central nervous system lupus resulted in an improvement without neurological deficit. After the treatment, nail deformities improved (Picture B, C, 3 and 5 months after treatment). Six months after treatment nail deformities had almost disappeared (Picture D). Although several nail abnormalities have been described in patients with SLE (1, 2), nail deformity such as in the present case has not previously been reported.

<sup>1</sup>Research Center for Medical Education, Kanazawa University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan, <sup>2</sup>Division of Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, Kanazawa University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan and <sup>3</sup>Division of Cardiology, Department of Internal Medicine, Kanazawa University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan

Received for publication January 16, 2012; Accepted for publication January 23, 2012

Correspondence to Dr. Masami Matsumura, mmatsu@spacelan.ne.jp

**The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).**

**References**

1. Urowitz MB, Gladman DD, Chalmers A, Ogryzlo MA. Nail lesions in systemic lupus erythematosus. *J Rheumatol* **5**: 441-447, 1978.
2. Tosti A. The nail apparatus in collagen disorders. *Semin Dermatol* **10**: 71-76, 1991.

---

© 2012 The Japanese Society of Internal Medicine  
<http://www.naika.or.jp/imindex.html>