Diabetes-associated Necrotizing Fasciitis of the Foot

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A 52-year-old man with untreated diabetes mellitus (HbA1c, 11.9%) presented with a 1-week history of the acute onset of swelling and pain in the left foot concomitant with a fever (39.4 °C). His white blood cell count and C-reactive protein concentration were 25,600 cells/mm³ and 22.6 mg/dL, respectively. His left foot was reddish and edematous with foul-smelling areas of necrosis (Picture 1). Radiographic and magnetic resonance T2-weighted imaging of the affected foot showed gas and increased signal intensity in...
the soft and muscle tissues, suggesting gas gangrene (Picture 2, 3). Intravenous meropenem, clindamycin, and insulin were administered immediately (1), and left below-the-knee amputation was performed on the third day of hospitalization. Preoperative cultures of the necrotic tissue specimens revealed *Streptococcus agalactiae*, coagulase-negative staphylococci, and *Corynebacterium* species. We therefore diagnosed him with necrotizing fasciitis (2). He was able to walk with a prosthesis after eight months of gait rehabilitation (Picture 4).

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

References


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