

A 62-Year-Old Man With Skin Rash and an Abnormal Chest Radiograph

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A 62-year-old man developed a scalp rash 2 months ago, followed by bilateral eyelid swelling. The nonpruritic rash then spread to involve most of his skin. He also had fatigue, muscle weakness, mild muscle soreness with activity, and dysphagia for solid foods for the last 3 weeks. He had no other symptoms. He had a 50 pack-year history of smoking and drank two to three shots of alcohol daily. CHEST 2015; 147(3):e90-e94

Physical Examination Findings

The patient's vital signs and findings from chest, cardiac, and abdominal examinations were normal. His skin examination was notable for violaceous erythema of the face, scalp, neck, shoulders, and extremities, with multiple areas of superficial ulceration. Violaceous bilateral periorbital edema was present (Fig 1A). His hands had erythema over the proximal interphalangeal joints, particularly on the middle and ring fingers, and periungual suffusion and erythema, especially of the ring finger (Fig 1B). Periungual telangiectasias were also visible. The musculoskeletal examination revealed mild proximal muscle weakness of both arms and legs bilaterally. The remainder of his examination was unremarkable.

Diagnostic Studies

CBC count, renal function, and electrolyte level were normal. Notable laboratory values were as follows: aspartate aminotransferase, 124 U/L; alanine aminotransferase, 53 U/L; and creatine kinase, 1,952 U/L. His chest radiograph showed a small left upper lobe nodular opacity (Fig 2).

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Figure 1 – A, B, Photographs of the (A) face and (B) hand. (The patient provided written consent for the use of this photograph.)



 $\label{thm:continuous} Figure~2-Posterior-anterior~chest~radiograph~shows~small~left~upper~lung~nodular~opacity~(arrow)~and~left~hilar~prominence.$

What is the diagnosis?

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