

MULTIPLE PILOSEBACEOUS CYSTS

M. Lomuto, G. Ditano and V. Nirchio

ABSTRACT

The term "multiple pilosebaceous cysts" has recently been proposed to describe lesions currently classified as steatocystoma multiplex as well as those named eruptive vellus hair cysts. This terminology reflects the concept that both types of cyst are expressions of a single pathological process involving the epithelium of the hair follicle. We report a 23-year old female with cystic lesions of the abdomen, axillae, lateral neck and right leg that had been present for 6 years. The clinical aspects of the disease were typical of steatocystoma multiplex, but histopathologic findings were suggestive of both steatocystomas and eruptive vellus hair cysts. This case illustrates the close relationship between these two types of cysts that has already been suggested by several authors.

KEY WORDS

steatocystoma multiplex, eruptive vellus hair cysts, multiple pilosebaceous cysts

INTRODUCTION

Some authors (1-3) consider steatocystoma multiplex and eruptive vellus hair cysts as manifestations of the same pathological process, Ohtake et al (4) therefore recently proposed the term "multiple sebaceous cysts" to describe both conditions.

CASE REPORT

A 23-year-old housewife was referred to our hospital for evaluation of multiple cutaneous cysts that were subjectively asymptomatic. The lesions had first appeared in the presternal region and on the abdomen (fig. 1) when the patient was 16 years old and had gradually extended to involve the axillae

