

P6

SPREAD OF GENITAL WARTS BY TATTOO NEEDLE INOCULATION

Katrina Hutton Carlsen¹, Jørgen Serup¹.

¹*Department of Dermato-Venerology, Bispebjerg University Hospital; (Copenhagen, Denmark)*

Aim: Tattoos are increasingly popular among all age groups. In Denmark, 600.000 present tattoos in a population of 6 million people, approximately 13% of the adult population.

Viral skin infection and routes of transmission is described to enlighten a new dangerous route.

Methods: A 19-year-old Caucasian male, with a 12 years history of nephropathia and immune suppression presented genital condylomata accuminatum in our department of sexually transmitted diseases at the age of 16. Afterwards his first black tattoo on the right upper arm was performed in Germany (Fig.1) and another tattoo in black on the rest of the upper arm, stretching down towards his left hand with black lines and finally filled with black colour (Fig.2) performed in Denmark.

Results: One year later, he presented itching due to sun exposure and warts in the outlines of his tattoo (Fig.3), a biopsy was performed (Fig. 4) revealing viral infection, condylomata accuminatum, derived from his genital infection (Figure 5).

One might have expected the differential diagnosis Verrucae Vulgaris due to papilloma virus on his arm, (Figure 6) but this hypothesis was proven wrong.

Conclusions: The needle pricks of tattooing may infect and spread genital warts to other parts of the skin outside the genital area. Immunosuppressive treatment may predispose to this kind of event.