

Palatopharyngeal vesicular enanthem, early finding of COVID-19

Enanema vesicular palatofaríngeo, hallazgo temprano de COVID-19

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Abstract

Early diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection is very important to establish timely treatment. In the present report, through the examination carried out in otorhinolaryngology, we found a pearlescent vesicular enanthema in the upper palate in 954/958 patients with the classic strain and it was not found in patients with the English strain. This finding had not been reported. The patients were successfully treated on time, only two patients died, which was associated with decompensated diabetes mellitus. The present report suggests that the vesicular enanthem found is pathognomonic for Covid-19 classic strains.

Keywords: Coronavirus. Rash. Enanthema.

Resumen

El diagnóstico temprano de la infección por SARS-CoV-2 es muy importante para establecer un tratamiento oportuno. En el presente reporte, en la exploración realizada en otorrinolaringología encontramos un enanema vesicular aperlado en el paladar superior en 954 de 958 pacientes con la cepa clásica, y no se encontró en pacientes con la cepa inglesa. Este hallazgo no se había reportado. Los pacientes fueron tratados a tiempo exitosamente y solo dos pacientes murieron, lo cual se asoció a diabetes mellitus descompensada. Este reporte sugiere que el enanema vesicular encontrado es patognomónico de COVID-19 por cepas clásicas.

Palabras clave: Coronavirus. Exanema. Enanema.

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Otorhinolaryngology offers an alternative for early diagnosis of COVID-19. In a series of 958 patients with COVID-19 confirmed by polymerase chain reaction (382 diabetics) treated in Sierra Sur of Oxaca, a pearl white vesicular enanthema was detected in 954 of them

in the upper palate, oropharynx and oral cavity, which presents 3 days after infection with few injuries, it progresses and then disappears when viremia is treated (Fig. 1). The evolution is the same in patients with diabetes. It was not detected in four patients with the British strain. Additionally, pharyngeal mucous and pale

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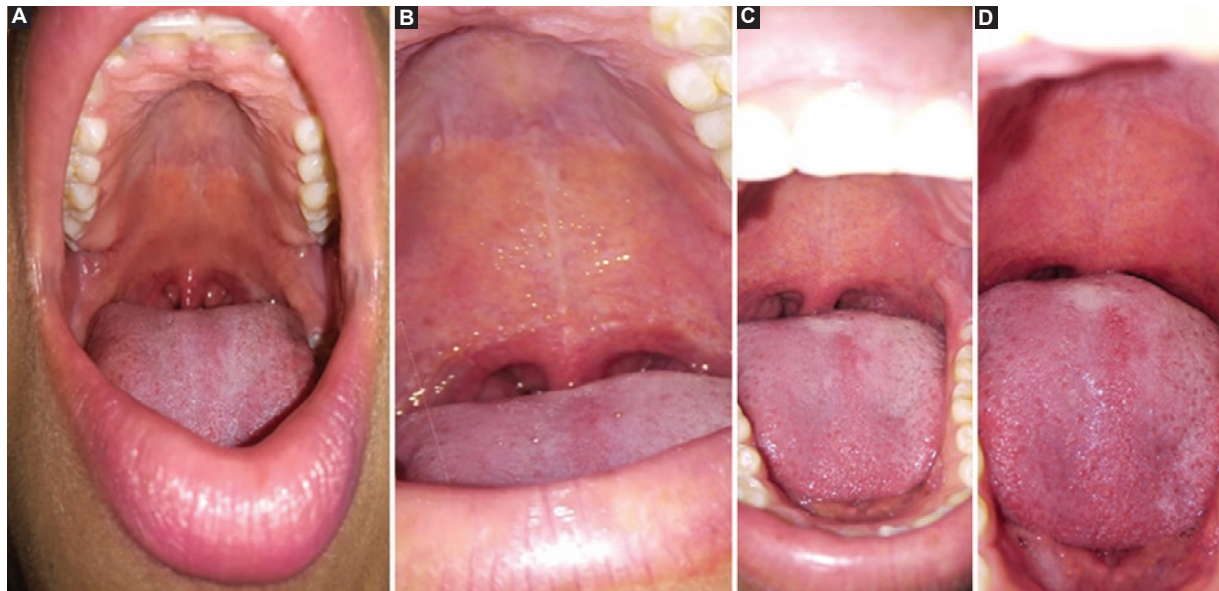


Figure 1. Palatopharyngeal vesicular enanthema and its evolution in patients with COVID-19. **A:** first three days of infection. **B:** after day three. **C:** after 14 days. **D:** after 27 days, viremia treated

upper palate with yellow areas and telangiectasias. No erythema, macular, petechial, maculopetechial or erithemato-vesicular enanthema, herpetiform injuries or tongue ulcers were detected as described previously in other studies during the first 2-24 days of the disease¹⁻³. The enanthema presented an association with corrected X^2 of 23.18 ($p = 0.0000015$; *odds ratio*: 213.4; confidence interval: 4.1917-926.4). Patients were treated successfully with dexamethasone, azithromycin, ivermectin, and cyclosporine A. Only two patients died due to unbalanced diabetes.

This report suggests that the enanthema found is pathognomonic of COVID-19 with classic strains, and it can be considered a clinical alternative for early diagnosis and treatment; however, it must be correlated in subsequent genomic epidemiology studies^{4,5}.

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Conflicts of interest

The authors state that they do not have any conflicts of interest.

Ethical disclosures

Protection of People and Animals. The authors state that no experiments have been conducted in humans or animals for this research.

Data Confidentiality. The authors state that the protocols of their work center regarding the publication of patient data have been followed.

Right to privacy and informed consent. The authors have obtained informed consent from the patients and/or subjects mentioned in the article. This document is owned by the corresponding author.

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