Neurofibromatosis type 1 (Von Recklinghausen's disease) in Emergency Department

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Abstract:

Neurofibromatosis is one of the most common genetic disorders. A typical picture is presented, with a brief compilation of the most common presentations of these patients in the Emergency Department.

Keywords: Neurofibromatosis type 1, Von Recklinghausen's disease, Emergency Department.

TEXT:

Neurofibromatosis is one of the most common genetic disorders, autosomal dominant trait with a frequency of about 1 in 3000; it is inexorably progressive, but with markedly variable expressivity¹.

Classified into two genetically different subtypes characterized by multiple cutaneous lesions (Figure 1) and tumors of the peripheral and central nervous system.



Neurofibromatosis type 1 (Von Recklinghausen's disease) is a tumor disorder due to a mutation of a gene on chromosome1.

Peripheral nervous system is usually the primary neurologic involvement in Von Recklinghausen's disease. Central nervous system is secondarily involved.

In Emergency Department the most usual attendances are local infection around the fibromas.

Other reported causes in Emergency Department are: spontaneous hemothorax2, digestive hemorrhages due to gastrointestinal stromal tumors3, upper airway obstruction (due to neurofibroma in base of tongue4, ruptured subclavian artery aneurysm5).

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