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CLINICAL IMAGE

Myiasis

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Abstract

Late presentation of breast cancer is more likely to be complicated and fatal. Local invasion, tissue destruction, skin loss, and superadded infection/infestation make surgical intervention very challenging.

KEY WORDS

breast cancer, diabetes, maggot, Myiasis, poor hygiene

Q: What is this condition?

A: Maggot infestation of a fungating left breast carcinoma, or what is called Myiasis. This self-neglected middle-aged woman presented with this rare condition and died few weeks later Figure 1.¹ Wound debridement and symptom control were the mainstay of treatment. Approximately 50 maggots of the *Wohlfahrtia Magnifica* type were removed.

This parasitic larva of fly lives on the debris and necrotic tissue. Diabetes, immunosuppression, and poor hygiene,² in a hot climate and tropical countries are the main risk factors.



FIGURE 1 Fungating left breast carcinoma with skin necrosis, ulceration, and infestation by maggots

Management is wound debridement and disinfection along with controlling the risk factors and treating the underlying cause.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr SQ: contributed to this work by obtaining consent, organizing clinical photography, writing, and reviewing the manuscript. Mr SH: contributed to this work by writing and reviewing the manuscript.

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The paper is not based on previous communication to a society or meeting

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