POST-VARICELLA ACUTE INFLAMMATORY DEMYELINATING POLYRADICULONEUROPATHY IN A 51-YEAR-OLD FILIPINO MALE

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Primary varicella zoster infection is commonly observed in school-aged children.There are increasing reports of adults being affected. Varicella zoster infection has a myriad of clinical complications. The more rare of these complications is Guillan Barre syndrome (GBS) or acute inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (AIDP), with less than 50 cases in reported literature.

Objectives: Our aim is to highlight a rare case of post-varicella infection GBS happening in an adult.

Methods: This is a case report with a concise history and adequate ancillary work-up.

Results: We report a case of a 51-year-old Filipino male who presented with weakness and numbness of both upper and lower extremities two weeks after a primary varicella infection [Fig. 1]. CSF analysis for this patient showed elevation of CSF protein (69mg/dl). CSF Varicella virus IgG was 1.8 mIU/ml and IgM was at 1 mIU/ml. Nerve conduction velocity studies showed delayed latencies or absent response, prolonged conduction velocities or absent response, temporal dispersion, and partial conduction block at both median, ulnar, tibial [Fig. 2] and peroneal nerves [Table 1].

Conclusion: The objective finding in this case as well as the clinical history is indicative of a demyelinating sensorimotor polyneuropathy after a varicella infection.

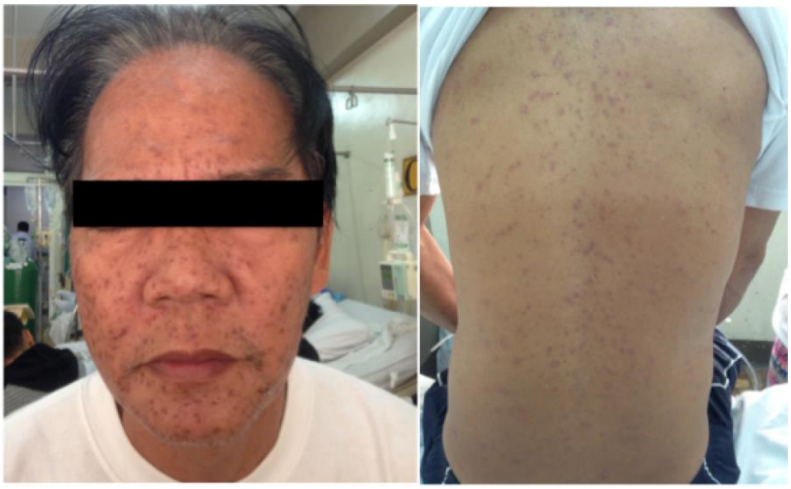

Fig. 1. multiple generalized hyperpigmented lesions over the face and back.

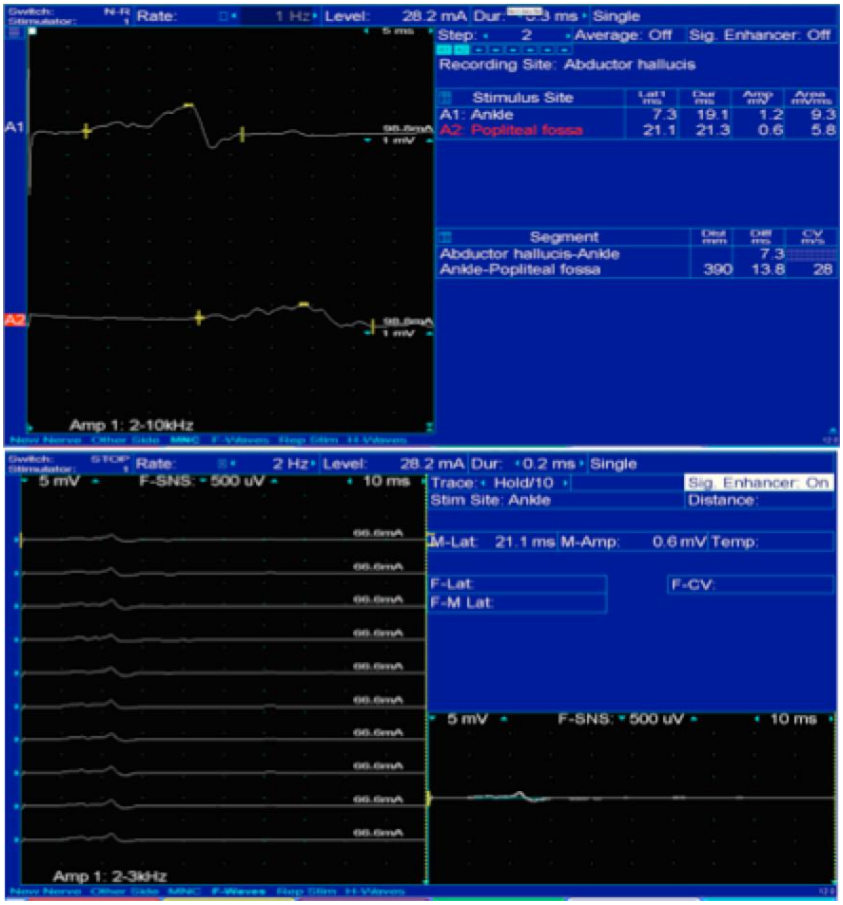

Fig 2. Delayed latency, temporal wave dispersion and absent F-wave response seen on the left tibial nerve.

Nerve Conduction Velocities Abnormalities		
	Motor	Sensory
Delayed latencies or absent response	Bilateral ulnar nerves Bilateral median nerves Peroneal nerves Tibial nerves	Bilateral median nerves Bilateral ulnar nerves Bilateral sural nerves Bilateral superficial peroneal
Prolonged conduction velocities or absent response	Bilateral median nerves Bilateral ulnar nerves Bilateral peroneal nerves Bilateral tibial nerves	Bilateral median nerves Bilateral ulnar nerves Bilateral peroneal nerve Bilateral sural nerves
Temporal dispersion	Bilateral median nerves Bilateral ulnar nerves Bilateral peroneal nerves tibial nerves	
Partial conduction block	Bilateral median nerves Bilateral ulnar nerves Bilateral peroneal nerves Bilateral tibial nerves	
Prolonged or absent F wave response	Tibial nerves	
Absent H-reflex response	Tibial nerves	

Table 1. A summary of the nerve conduction velocity abnormalities in this patient