Pyoderma gangrenosum associated with hidradenitis suppurativa

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Pyoderma gangrenosum (PG) is associated with a number of systemic diseases. PG in association with hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) has been rarely reported. We describe five patients, three males and two females, age 35 to 51 years old at the time of presentation, who developed PG on a background of HS. The onset of PG occurred only after HS had been present from eighteen to thirty years. There was no observed relationship in disease activity between the two conditions. Three patients described severe adolescent acne vulgaris and one had concurrent systemic lupus erythematosus. The course of the PG was intractable in four patients, and treatment included oral corticosteroids, ciclosporin, and in the patient with systemic lupus erythematosus intravenous immunoglobulin and intravenous cyclophosphamide. A comparative search of the peer-reviewed, English language literature revealed a total of eight patients, either from surveys of PG or individual case reports, who had developed PG together with HS.

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