Abstract

Rheumatoid vasculitis is a rare manifestation of rheumatoid arthritis which has a high mortality. It is continuing to occur in longstanding, erosive, seropositive disease. However it can be the first manifestation in minority.

A 54-year-old, Sri Lankan female, presented with symmetrical inflammatory type polyarthritis involving large and small joints with associated vasculitic rash over bilateral lower limbs and peripheral neuropathy. She had a reasonable response to immunosuppressive medications.

Rheumatoid vasculitis should be considered not only in advance longstanding disease of rheumatoid arthritis but also rarely in early disease course. Since it is an immune mediated multi system vasculitis, the response to immunosupression may vary depending on the severity.