

Abstract

Dermatomyositis (DM) is an idiopathic inflammatory myopathy involving proximal muscle weakness and cutaneous manifestations. The diagnosis is supported by the presence of skin rashes, elevated muscle enzymes and muscle biopsy. Patients with DM are at increased risk of underlying malignancy. We present a case of a 22-year-old male presenting with swelling of small joints of hands, proximal muscle weakness and skin rashes with biopsy proven DM without any underlying malignancy. The risk of DM increases with each decade of life. Therefore, this highlights the importance of suspecting DM as a cause of proximal muscle weakness irrespective of age.