

# Connective Tissue Diseases

Paul K. Shitabata, M.D.

Director of Dermatopathology

Harbor-UCLA Dermatology

# Pertinent histopathological features of LSEA include all except:

- Follicular plugging
- Interface dermatitis
- Increased elastic fibers within the papillary dermis
- Dermal sclerosis
- Mid-dermal inflammatory infiltrate

# Answer

- Increased elastic fibers

The hallmark of LSEA is decreased elastic fibers within the papillary dermis.

# Associations with eosinophilic fasciitis include all except:

- Positive anti-nuclear antibody
- Peripheral blood eosinophilia
- Serotonin ingestion
- Acute onset
- Dermal sclerosis extending into subQ fat

# Answer

- Serotonin ingestion

Classically, the syndrome has been linked to 1-Tryptophan ingestion leading to the similar eosinophila-myalgia syndrome

# Characteristic histopathologic features of morphea and variants include all except:

- Less sclerosis than systemic scleroderma
- Histologically unremarkable skin
- Positive ANA
- Histopathologic overlap with LSEA
- Calcinosis cutis

# Answer

- Less sclerosis than systemic scleroderma

Morphea cannot be distinguished from systemic scleroderma by routine histopathology. There are increasing reports of overlap cases of LSEA and morphea, blurring the distinction between the two diseases.

# Which is not a classic “5L”?

- Leprosy
- Lupus erythematosus
- Lymphocytic lymphoma
- Lymphocytic infiltrate of Jessner
- Polymorphous light eruption



# Answer

- Leprosy

The 5Ls can also include:

Lymphocytoma cutis

Lyme disease

Lues (secondary syphilis)

# Histopathological cutaneous changes of SLE include all except:

- DLE changes
- Tumid changes
- Leukocytoclastic vasculitis
- Intra-epidermal bullous change
- Fibrinoid deposits

# Answer

- Intra-epidermal bullous change

Bullous LE is a sub-epidermal bullous disorder

# Jessner's vs DLE

	Jessner's	DLE
DIF		
Interface changes		
T vs B-cell dermal phenotype		
S and D PV infiltrate		
Dermal mucinosis		

# Answers

	Jessner's	DLE
DIF	-	+
Interface changes	-	+
T vs B-cell dermal phenotype	<b>T cells</b>	<b>T cells</b>
S and D PV infiltrate	+	+
Dermal mucinosis	-	+

# Dermatomyositis Associated Ab

Disease Variant	Autoantibody
Pulmonary fibrosis	
Sclerodermatomyositis	
At DEJ on DIF	

# Answers

Disease Variant	Autoantibody
Pulmonary fibrosis	Jo1
Sclerodermatomyositis	Ku
At DEJ on DIF	C5b-9 (Membrane attack complex)

# Poikilodermatous histopathology in all except:

- Rothmund-Thompson syndrome
- Congenital ichthyosiform erythroderma
- Dermatomyositis
- Bloom's syndrome
- Dyskeratosis congenita



# Answer

- Congenital ichthyosiform erythroderma

This classically presents with epidermolytic hyperkeratosis