Vascular Diseases

Paul K. Shitabata, M.D.
Director of Dermatopathology
Harbor-UCLA Dermatology

Pertinent histopathologic differential diagnostic considerations for Degos' Syndrome include all except:

- Discoid lupus erythematosus
- Morphea
- Anti-phospholipid antibody syndrome
- Leukocytoclastic vasculitis
- Dermal mucinosis

Answer

- Leukocytoclastic vasculitis

Although Degos' syndrome may present with intravascular fibrin thrombi, a true LCV is not observed. Extensive necrosis, classically in a wedge shaped infiltrate associated with dermal mucinosis is usually observed.

Which does not usually show fibrin thrombi?

- Cutaneous cholesterol embolism
- Calciphylaxis
- Atrophie blanche
- Granuloma faciale
- Livedo reticularis

Answer

- Granuloma faciale

This latter disease usually shows a diffuse mixed inflammatory infiltrate with plasma cells, neutrophils, and eosinophils but no vasculitis or fibrin thrombi should be present.

Which disease does not show vasculitis of both small and medium-large sized vessels?

- Polyarteritis nodosa
- Henoch-Schonlein Purpura
- Wegener's granulomatosis
- Buerger's disease (Thromboangiitis obliterans)
- Kawasaki's disease

Answer

- Henoch-Schonlein purpura

This is classically a leukocytoclastic vasculitis.

Pertinent histopathologic differential diagnostic considerations for pyoderma gangrenosum include all except:

- Crohn's disease
- Sweet's syndrome
- Bacterial infections
- Pustular vasculitis
- Drug reaction

Answer

- Crohn's disease

Although pyoderma gangrenosum is classically associated with Crohn's disease, the cutaneous features of this latter disease are generally lacking in cases of PG.

Pertinent histopathologic differential diagnostic considerations for a pigmented purpuric dermatosis include all except:

- Leukocytoclastic vasculitis
- Stasis dermatitis
- Mycosis fungoides
- Drug reaction
- Lichenoid contact dermatitis

Answer

- Leukocytoclastic vasculitis

Although a clinical mimic, all cases of PPD should not exhibit a true vasculitis.

Prominent lymphocytic vasculopathy reactions may be seen in all the following except:

- Viral exanthem
- Peripheral T-cell lymphoma
- PLEVA
- Calciphylaxis
- Perniosis

Answer

- Calciphylaxis

Although a vasculopathy may be present with calcifications within the small vessel walls, a classic lymphocytic vasculopathy is lacking in this disease.

Immunoglobulin (Ig) deposits may be seen in the following diseases except (DIF)

- Sweet's syndrome
- Cutaneous cholesterol embolism
- Erythema elevatum diutinum
- Granuloma faciale
- Cryoglobulinemias

Answers

- Cutaneous cholesterol embolism-usually fibrin or cholesterol emboli

Sweet's syndrome-cases of Hyper IgD syndrome

Erythema elevatum diutinum-cases of Hyper IgA gammaglobulinemia

Granuloma faciale-IgG

Cryoglobulinemias-Mixed IgG/IgM depending upon etiology

ANCA's Away!

Disease	c-ANCA	p-ANCA
Churg-Strauss syndrome		
Microscopic polyarteritis		
Wegener's syndrome		

Answers

Disease	c-ANCA	p-ANCA
Churg-Strauss syndrome	Rare (<7%)	+ (70%)
Microscopic polyarteritis	Common (45%)	Common (50-60%)
Wegener's syndrome	Common (80%)	Rare (<5%)