

Rubeosis Faciei Diabeticorum: a Common, but Often Unnoticed, Clinical Manifestation of Diabetes Mellitus



FIGURE. Rubeosis faciei diabeticorum in a patient with diabetes mellitus.

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Rubeosis, also named rubeosis faciei and rubeosis faciei diabeticorum, occurs in up to 59% of hospitalized patients with diabetes mellitus[1] and is often a sign of suboptimal glycemic control[2]. In diabetics, hyperglycemia could lead to sluggish microcirculation, which becomes clinically evident by facial venous dilatation[3]. Rubeosis signifies microangiopathy, necessitating the evaluation of the patients for other more important microangiopathies, such as retinopathy[2].

Strict glycemic control is the mainstay of treatment for this reddish complexion[2].

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