

Hard Lumps under the skin

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A 16 year old boy had a two year history of skin lumps on his legs and progressive muscle weakness. Examination revealed a purplish rash on his eyelids, reduced power in the proximal upper and lower limb muscles, and disseminated, non-tender, subcutaneous, hard, nodular lumps appearing in clumps with no overlying skin abnormalities on his upper and lower legs. Radiography showed radio-opaque subcutaneous (clear arrow) and intra-muscular (white arrow) sheet-like calcific deposits. Inflammatory markers and muscle enzymes were raised. Juvenile dermatomyositis with calcinosis was diagnosed. Although it is a clinical diagnosis, imaging assesses the extent of calcification and excludes calcinosis mimickers (eg, xanthomas, gouty tophi, subcutaneous cholesterol crystals, osteoma cutis, mycetoma).



References

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