Exuberant molluscum contagiosum in HIV disease

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A 36-year-old female presented with multiple skin-colored nodules around the eyes, associated with difficulty in vision from the right eye for five months (Figure A and B). She also gave history of significant weight loss. There was no history of high-risk sexual behavior, intravenous drug abuse, or blood transfusion. Bedside Tzanck smear showed multiple Henderson Peterson bodies. Lab investigations revealed HIV positive status with a CD4 cell count of 98 cells/µl. She was diagnosed as exuberent molluscum contagiosum (MC) with HIV positive status. MC in HIV patients tend to present with multiple lesions (≥50-100) or giant forms (≥5 cm) which commonly involves the face and may be refractory to conventional therapies. It may also develop as a part of immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome and is usually associated with a low CD4 count. She was counselled and started on HAART (Tenofovir, Lamivudine and Efavirenz). Follow-up at 3-month revealed complete regression of the lesions.

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