

Resolution of Eczema with Vedolizumab in an Ulcerative Colitis Patient

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Received: December 27, 2023; **Published:** January 10, 2023

Abstract

Up to 35% of patients with ulcerative colitis have extra-intestinal manifestations (EIMs), of which approximately 15% are often associated with cutaneous involvement [1-3]. The therapeutic effect of vedolizumab, intestinal selective biologic, on EIMs in patients with inflammatory bowel disease remains unclear [4]. In particular, there are still only few data on the role of vedolizumab in the treatment of dermatologic EIMs, and its efficacy remains debatable [5]. We describe here a case of vedolizumab successfully resolving dermatologic EIMs in a patient with ulcerative colitis.

Keywords: *Ulcerative Colitis; Vedolizumab; Extra-Intestinal Manifestations*

Abbreviations

EIMs: Extra-Intestinal Manifestations; UC: Ulcerative Colitis; IBD: Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Case Report

A 39-year-old woman began to develop recurrent episodes of pus and blood stools with rash on both wrists, ankles and knees, especially on the left wrist, which was characterized by intense itching, chapping and pain in 2013. The skin lesions were diagnosed by a dermatologist as eczema and treated with topical ointments. However, this treatment was not very effective as the patient's rash aggravated (Figure 1A). At the same time, mesalazine was administered in the patient as ulcerative colitis. Unfortunately, the patient was admitted to hospital due to the recurrence of the disease on September 6, 2021. A colonoscopy was performed indicating active ulcerative colitis (Figure 2A), and the skin lesions (Figure 1B) were considered to be an EIMs of ulcerative colitis. Then, the patient was given a first infusion of vedolizumab 300 mg on September 7, 2021. Her rash improved significantly after one week without pruritus, chafing or pain (Figure 1C). After her 6th infusion, the rash had almost disappeared, leaving only some pigmentation (Figure 1D). The patient's bowel symptoms, meanwhile, were relieved and the current colonoscopy showed remission of ulcerative colitis (Figure 2B).

Discussion

The management of EIMs in patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), which affects the quality of life of patients, is challenging. Currently, data on the efficacy of vedolizumab for the treatment of EIMs in IBD are still insufficient. This case demonstrates that

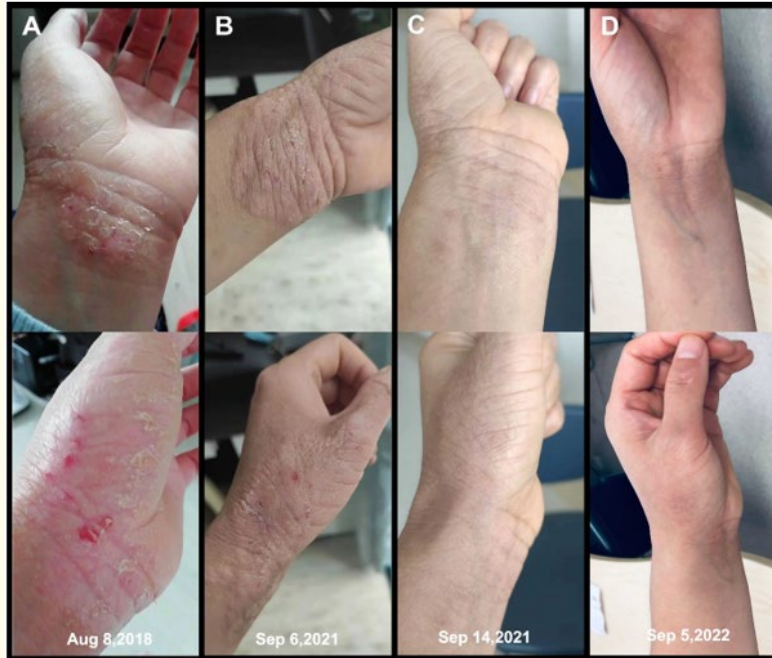


Figure 1: Patient's skin manifestations. A-B, Recurrent rash prior to treatment with vedolizumab. C, One week after the first treatment with vedolizumab. D, After six doses of vedolizumab treatment.

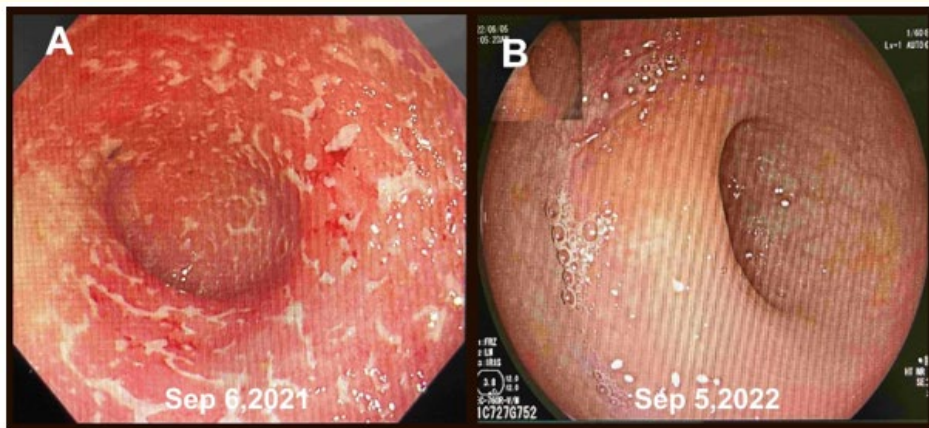


Figure 2: Patient's colonoscopic presentation. A, Before treatment with vedolizumab. B, After six doses of vedolizumab treatment.

vedolizumab is effective in treating dermatologic EIMs in UC, aiming to provide reference data for related studies, and more data may be needed to clarify its efficacy.

Conclusion

Vedolizumab can be used to treat eczema, an EIM of ulcerative colitis, and this is effective.

Acknowledgements

This work was supported by funding from the 13th Five-Year Plan for National Key Research and Development Program of China (2018YFC1705404).

Conflict of Interest

All authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

Informed Consent

Informed consent was obtained from the patient to publish these images.

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Volume 11 Issue 2 February 2024

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