

A CASE REPORT OF INFANTILE HAND CELLULITIS PRESENTING WITH RAPID ONSET HEMORRHAGIC BULLAE

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Introduction: Cellulitis is an acute non-necrotizing infection of the skin and subcutaneous tissues with an incidence rate of 24.6/1000 person-years. Bullous hemorrhagic cellulitis is a severe bacterial infection characterized by the rapid development of hemorrhagic bullae and skin necrosis. It usually occurs in the early stage of necrotizing fasciitis.

Discussion: A 1 year old infant presented with right hand hemorrhagic bullae appearance. There was no history of trauma or wound puncture and radiographs ruled out any fracture. Her mother described rapidly developing hemorrhagic bullae with fever eight hours prior to presentation and there was no preceding swelling nor erythema. There was a clear demarcation of the hemorrhagic bullae surrounding fully her index finger. The total white blood cell was 20,000. Systemically, she was active and vital signs were normal for her age. She was started empirical intravenous ceftriaxone. The bullae was decompressed by needle aspiration and wound care was done daily. The aspirated bullae grew *Staphylococcus aureus*. She recovered well with intravenous cloxacillin and daily wound dressing.

Conclusion: This case illustrated infantile cellulitis presented with rapid onset haemorrhagic bullae who responded well with intravenous antibiotic and proper wound care.