LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ocular involvement in congenital erythropoietic porphyria (Günther’s disease): cytopathological evaluation of conjunctival and corneal changes

EDITOR—The porphyrinas are a group of rare inherited disorders caused by specific enzymatic defects of the haem biosynthetic pathway. Congenital erythropoietic porphyria (CEP) is an extremely rare autosomal recessively inherited disorder of the haem synthesis pathway first described by Günther in 1911. Clinical symptoms are caused by a homoygous defect of the enzyme uroporphyrinogen III synthase which leads to severe anaemia and the accumulation of the biologically inactive type I porphyrins, particularly uroporphyrin I and coproporphyrin I, mainly in bones, erythrocytes, skin, and teeth. Excessive amounts of porphyrin and other porphyrin metabolites deposited in skin induce phototoxic, oxygen dependent damage characterised by subepidermal blistering with severe inflammation and subsequent ulceration and scarring of all light exposed skin areas. The phototoxic damage can lead to severe mutilations of hands, fingers, and face, particularly nose, ears, lips, and eyelids. Since 1874 approximately 130 cases of CEP have been reported worldwide. To date there is no known treatment. The only preventive measure is absolute avoidance of sunlight.

To our knowledge, there are currently only four patients living in Germany. There are no family relations among our patients.

CASE REPORTS
Patient 1 was a 38 year old man. Visual acuity was right eye: 0.3, left eye: 0.2. There was scarring of the entire face, bilaterally severely scarred retracted eye lids with incomplete lid closure (Fig 1), loss of eye lashes, scarred conjunctiva with symblepharon, corneal vascularisation and hyperkeratotic plaques in both eyes, and chronic recurrent corneal erosions.

There was corneal surface stabilisation with subsequent improvement of visual function to right eye: 0.5, left eye: 0.2 with topical supportive measures was carried out.

Patient 2 was a 55 year old woman. Visual acuity was right eye: 0.8, left eye: 0.4. There was scarring of the entire face, bilateral lid closure was almost complete, loss of eye lashes, scarred conjunctiva with hyperkerato-tic plaques, scleral tissue substance defect and a clear cornea. Stabilisation of the ocular surface and visual function with topical supportive measures was carried out.

Patient 3 was a 42 year old man. Visual acuity was right eye: 1.25, left eye: 1.0. There were scarred eye lids with incomplete lid closure in the left eye, scarred conjunctival and scleral alterations with conjunctival hyperkeratotic plaques in the left eye, bilaterally scarred eye lids with symblepharon in both eyes, and a clear cornea. Stabilisation of the ocular surface and visual function with topical supportive measures was carried out. The patient had mutilated hands and fingers.

Patient 4 was a 34 year old man. Visual acuity was right eye: 0.2 (amblyopia), left eye: 1.0. There was intact lid closure, comparatively mild conjunctival scarring, and clear cornea. Stabilisation of the ocular surface and visual function with topical supportive measures was carried out.

Because of the clinical similarity to xero-derma pigmentosum which is known to be associated with a predisposition to malignant changes of light exposed cells and because the eye alterations of the ocular surface in CEP have not yet been characterised, we aimed to rule out malignant conjunctival or corneal cell changes by cytopathological evaluation of brush smears obtained from the ocular surface, a method which revealed hyperkeratotic squamous cells, few granulocytes and lymphocytes with inflammative activation and degenerative unclear changes. Malignant or dysplastic cell changes of the ocular surface were excluded in all four patients.

Topical lubrication has led to improvement or at least stabilisation of visual function in all our patients. All patients reported subjective improvement of disturbing foreign body sensation with topical treatment.

COMMENT
Alterations of lids, conjunctiva, and sclera, as well as the changes of other light exposed parts of the skin, are directly related to the described toxic effect of sunlight. The corneal changes, on the other hand, have two causes. Firstly, conjunctival scarring causes a disturbance of the mucin layer of the tear film which in turn leads to a dry eye syndrome. Secondly, the dry eye syndrome is further aggravated by severely scarred eyelids with incomplete lid closure leading to lagophthal-mos.

Inadequate closure of the lids not only results in corneal drying but also to increased exposure of the cornea, the conjunctiva and the sclera to sunlight. Overall, in CEP, lagophthalmos seems to be the main cause of severe aggravation of ocular surface symptoms. Our clinical findings are in accordance with reports of CEP patients in the literature.1–7 In light and electron microscopy, Ueda et al found a reduced number of keratocytes, leucocytes, a thickened basement membrane of corneal and conjunctival blood vessels, and microfibrillar material in the extracellular space of the conjunctival stroma.8 There are no reports of malignant cell changes in the literature. The cytopathological evaluation of brush smears obtained from the ocular surface of our patients are compatible with these findings.

Attempts to correct lagophthalmos surgically cannot stop the ongoing scarring of the eyelids. We therefore recommend avoiding surgical treatment of scarred eyelids in CEP.

Hamard et al reported on the therapeutic effect from surgical correction of the eye lids because of impaired postoperative wound healing.9 We believe that supportive topical measures are the only recommendable treatment.

In summary, phototoxic alterations of the eyelids, the conjunctiva and the sclera represent the underlying pathological mechanism leading to ocular complications in CEP. Scarring of the eyelids may result in lagophthalmos with severe keratopathy and further aggravation of light induced damage to conjunctiva and sclera. The risk of development of neoplastic conjunctival or corneal cell changes appears to be low.

Presented at the annual meeting of the German Ophthalmologic Society (DOG), Berlin, 1999.

J HILLENKAMP
T REINHARD
Department of Ophthalmology, Heinrich-Heine-University, Düsseldorf, Germany

C FRITSCH
Department of Dermatology
A KERSTEN
Department of Ophthalmology
A BOCKING
Institutes of Cytology
R SUNDMACHER
Department of Ophthalmology

Correspondence to: Dr J Hillenkamp, The Rayne Institute, St Thomas’s Hospital, London SE1 7EH, UK. hillenk@hotmail.com

Accepted for publication 17 August 2000


Figure 1 Patient 1. Scarring of light exposed facial skin areas. Incomplete lid closure. Nasal prosthesis.

Figure 2 Patient 1. Bright eye: scarred retracted eye lids, lagophthalmos, corneal vascularisation and hyperkeratotic plaque.
Bitot's spots and vitamin A deficiency in a child from the UK

EDITOR,—Prolonged nutritional deficiency of vitamin A results in xerophthalmia. Bitot's spots are an early manifestation of this condition.1 While xerophthalmia is responsible for 70% of childhood blindness in developing countries it is rare in the Western world.2 We report a case of a British, vegetarian girl who developed Bitot's spots.

CASE REPORT
A 7 year old, indigenous, British, white girl presented with triangular white, foamy lesions in the temporal paralimbal areas of both eyes (Fig 1). She had no visual complaints and denied night blindness or any systemic problem. She had been a vegetarian for 2 years, and preferred processed, frozen food to fresh fruit or vegetables. On examination her unaided Snellen visual acuity was 6/6 and her tear film healthy with a normal tear break up time and no mucous filaments. Funduscopy was normal. Vitamin A levels were depressed at 0.35 µmol/l (normal range 0.4–1.1 µmol/l). Electroretinography was normal.

The patient was referred to a paediatric dietician who enabled her to find a more nutritious diet that she found acceptable. The Bitot's spots had visibly lessened by 6 weeks and disappeared by 3 months.

COMMENT
This case illustrates that the manifestations of vitamin A deficiency can occur in children in the Western world because of poor dietary education. In the UK xerophthalmia is more usually associated with alcoholism/hepatic cirrhosis, or refugee status. A loss of goblet cells in xerophthalmia alters the protective mucous layer resulting in an overlying accumulation of Gram positive bacilli and keratin debris on the paralimbal conjunctiva.3 A rapid response to vitamin A replacement is usual with goblet cells reappearing within 2 weeks4 and resolution within 3 months.5

The World Health Organization (WHO) categorised the ocular manifestations of vitamin A deficiency as XN night blindness, X1A conjunctival xerosis, X1B Bitot’s spot, X2 corneal xerosis, X3A corneal ulceration or keratomalacia involving one third or less of the cornea, X3 corneal scar, and XF xerophthalmia fundus.6 While this describes the usual pattern of progression of the disease, a study of 114 cases of Bitot’s spots found over 80% had no concurrent clinical night blindness as in this patient.7 Formal night blindness testing was not undertaken in this case as clinical history of poor night vision is believed to be a sensitive test in vitamin A deficiency.8 The condition improved after dietary change although the definitive treatment is one or two doses of vitamin A (200 000 IU). Those that do not respond are frequently over the age of about 6 years and may have normal vitamin A levels and possible previous deficiency.9

Bitot’s spots are an important clinical sign that should prompt a careful dietary history which may enable patients to avert the devastating consequences of xerophthalmia.10

ANDREW S RAMSAY
NELSON A SABIROSA
CARLOS E PAVESIO
Moorfields Eye Hospital, City Road, London, EC1V 2PD, UK

Correspondence to: Mr Carlos Pavesio
Carlos.Pavesio@moorfields.nthames.nhs.uk
Accepted for publication 11 September 2000

Figure 1 Triangular white, foamy lesions in the temporal paralimbal areas of both eyes.

Localised chronic eyelid disease resulting from long term hydroxyurea therapy

EDITOR,—Hydroxyurea is an antineoplastic agent used in the treatment of various myeloproliferative conditions and severe pso- riasis. Documented skin manifestations from long term therapy with hydroxyurea include ichthyosis, a dermatomyositis-like eruption on the dorsal hands, facial erythema, and accelerated development of premalignant and malignant skin lesions.1 2 Our patient is the first described case of a cutaneous manifestation of long term hydroxyurea therapy affecting only the eyelids.

CASE REPORT
A 61 year old man receiving long term hydroxyurea (1–1.5 g daily) for chronic granulocytic leukaemia presented complaining of chronic discomfort in the right eye accompanied by an area of erythema, dryness, and flakiness of the skin on the temporal aspect of the right lower lid. Examination of the right eyelid revealed a marked blepharitis-type reaction with associated lid skin changes. There was an associated temporal conjunctival injection (Fig 1). Visual acuity was 6/6 bilaterally. Following cessation of hydroxyurea therapy, there was a rapid improvement of the clinical findings and complete resolution by 4 months (Fig 2).

COMMENT
The skin manifestations of hydroxyurea therapy are rare and occur after long term high dose therapy. They have been speculated to result from a cumulative toxicity of hydroxyurea on the basal layer of the epidermis due to inhibition of DNA synthesis.1 3 Although the exact incidence of skin complications from hydroxyurea is unknown, Kennedy et al reported seven patients with dermatological complications out of 20 patients with chronic myeloid leukaemia on hydroxyurea therapy, other reports being in the form of sporadic cases.4

The rapid resolution of the condition on stopping hydroxyurea treatment should alert ophthalmologists to this possible link in any patients who develop lid problems which do not respond to usual management strategies while on such treatment.

P PURI
B E WOODCOCK
N P O’DONNELL
Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals NHS Trust
Correspondence to: N P O’Donnell, Southport General Infirmary, Fillington Road, Southport PR8 6PH, UK
Accepted for publication 22 September 2000


www.bjophthalmol.com

Figure 1 Lid appearance on presentation before cessation of hydroxyurea therapy.

Figure 2 Lid appearance after cessation of hydroxyurea therapy.
toxic therapy has been reported, when applied locally. Although a case of systemic chemotherapy
Limbal stem cell deficiency arising from stem cells located at the limbus. Place through centripetally migrating tran-
regeneration of corneal epithelial cells takes sary for clear vision and ocular comfort. The smooth, transparent, refractile surface neces-
epithelium is vital for the preservation of a
thelial cell regeneration and its replacement by
necessary for persistent corneal epithelial failure be investigat-
gated for limbal stem cell dysfunction. This path-
ological pathway is called limbal stem cell defi-
ency (LSCD) (see reviews Tseng and Sun
CASE REPORT
A 68 year old man gave a 6 week history of bilateral keratitis prior to referral. He com-
plained of decreased visual acuity with pain, severe photophobia, itching, and redness par-
ticularly affecting the left eye. The referring ophthalmologist had treated him with Virop-
tic ( trifluoridine, Glaxo-Wellcome Inc, NC, USA) for 3 weeks and Tobradex (tobramycin, dexamethasone, Alcon Laboratories Inc, Fort Worth, TX, USA) for 2 weeks. He had a medical history of chronic myelocytic leukaemia for which he had been treated with hydroxyurea (Roxane, Columbus, OH, USA) at 1500 mg per day for the previous 2 years. He had no other significant ophthalmic or past medical history.
At presentation, the best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) was 6/20 right eye and 6/22 left eye. Slit lamp examination of the both eyes revealed a severe diffuse punctate keratopathy with an irregular corneal epithelium and numerous areas of epithelial breakdown, but no macroepithelial lesions were seen. The fluorescein tear clearance test showed delayed tear clearance but no aqueous tear deficiency. Treatment was commenced with preservative-free 1% methylprednisolone (BPEI phar-
macy) daily for 10 days and Refresh (polyvinyl alcohol, porcine, Allergan, Irvine, CA, USA) ointment three times daily to both eyes. No improvement was noted after 2 months, while punctate epithelial erosions increased and BCVA decreased to 6/22 in the right eye and counting fingers at 2 metres in the left eye. A severe persistent epithelial defect on the right cornea highlighted by fluorescein staining was observed (Fig 1A) and a 4 × 1 mm macroepithelial defect of the left cornea. A provisional diagnosis of bilateral corneal epithelial opathy secondary to chemotherapy was made. Impressio cytology (IC) revealed focal LSCD localised to the temporal and inferior portion of the right cornea by exhibiting con-

Limbal stem cell deficiency arising from systemic chemotherapy

Editor—Continuous renewal of the corneal epithelium is vital for the preservation of a smooth, transparent, refractile surface necessary for clear vision and ocular comfort. The regeneration of corneal epithelial cells takes place through centripetally migrating tran-

Figure 1 (A) Severe persistent epithelial defect on the right cornea after 2 years of oral hydroxyurea treatment. (B) Eighteen days after reintroduction of hydroxyurea, an epithelial defect recurred on the left cornea measuring 6 × 4 mm. (C) Histological examination of the corneal pannus removed during the amniotic membrane transplantation revealed the presence of goblet cells mucin on the corneal epithelium (arrows) confirming the diagnosis of LSCD, PAS (magnification ×20). (D) Complete epithelial healing 2 weeks after a repeat amniotic membrane transplantation and allograft limbal transplantation.

www.bjophthalmol.com
support and prevent additional attrition of the remaining corneal epithelial cells should be taken to see if the process can be reversed. Once LSCD becomes persistent and irreversible, AMT can help restore the corneal surface if LSCD is partial, but requires additional transplantation of limbal epithelial stem cells if LSCD is total. In this case, we chose to use an allogeneic source as the right eye of the patient we described was also limbal deficient.

Supported in part by an unrestricted grant from Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc, New York, USA and in part by the Banque Française des Yeux, Paris, France and the TFC Frost Charitable Trust, UK. Proprietary interest: SCGT has obtained a patent on preparation and clinical uses of amniotic membrane, and has a financial interest in Bio-Tissue.

PIERRE ELLIES
Ocular Surface and Tear Center, Department of Ophthalmology, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, Florida and Service d’Ophthalmologie hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Paris, 1 Place du Paresys de Notre Dame 75004 Paris, France

DAVID F ANDERSON
AMEL TOUHAMI
SCHEFFER C G TSENG
Ocular Surface and Tear Center, Department of Ophthalmology, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, Florida and Service d’Ophthalmologie hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Paris, 1 Place du Paresys de Notre Dame 75004 Paris, France

Correspondence to: Scheffer C G Tseng, MD, PhD, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, William L. Mc Knight Vision Research Center, 1638 NW 10th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136, USA tseng@bpem.miami.edu

Accepted for publication 19 September 2000

CASE REPORT

A 5 month old infant girl presented with a swelling near the left eye. From the age of 2 months, she had received various topical and oral antibiotics for suspected bacterial dacroycystitis. Examination revealed a thriving infant weighing 7 kg, with redness and swelling over the left lacrimal sac and canthus of the napry area and mouth. While the candidiasis responded to oral and topical nystatin, the orbital swelling continued to increase despite broad spectrum, topical and systemic antifungal therapy. Computed tomography (CT) of the orbit demonstrated a solid mass in the region of the left lacrimal sac (Fig 1). Microscopic examination of a biopsy revealed fungal hyphae, and subsequent culture on Sabouraud’s agar led to identification of the fungus *Conidobolus coronatus* (Fig 2). There was no evidence of underlying immunodeficiency.

Intravenous fluconazole (6 mg/kg/day) and co-amoxiclav (100 mg/kg/day) were commenced, but due to lack of sustained improvement, they were replaced with intravenous amphotericin B (1 mg/kg/day) and cloxacillin (200 mg/kg/day). Despite this change, the child’s condition deteriorated with extension of the granuloma into surrounding tissue (Fig 3). One month after admission, all visible tumour, including adhesions to overlying skin, was excised. A drain was left in site to facilitate daily amphotericin irrigation. Within a week, however, new indurated areas appeared in the nasal part of the upper eyelid, and proptosis with downward and outward displacement of the eyelid was observed. Biopsy showed persistence of fungal elements and CT of the orbit demonstrated extension of the tumour towards the orbital apex. Chest x ray revealed a right upper lobe opacity, which was suspected to be metastatic fungal infection. Antibiotic was discontinued at this stage and oral fluconazole (loading dose 28 mg/kg/day; maintenance 10 mg/kg/day) was administered for 10 days, but without benefit.

Therapy with high dose intravenous fluconazole (12 mg/kg/day), liposomal amphotericin B (Ambisome) (7 mg/kg/day), and oral potassium iodide (20 mg/kg/day) was then initiated. Subcutaneous granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (5 µg/kg/day) was added to the treatment regimen. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy was commenced 10 days later and consisted of 90 minute sessions of exposure to 2.8 atm. There were two daily sessions in the first 2 weeks, and a total of 40 sessions were administered over 6 weeks. In the hyperbaric chamber, the child was sedated intravenously with a 4-8 ml solution of ketamine and midazolam, and a Bain circuit was used to administer the pure oxygen. Intense redness over affected areas was observed during treatment sessions.

The earliest signs of recovery, with reduction in proptosis and softening of the tissue mass appeared 5 days after starting combination antifungal therapy, and this trend was maintained during treatment with hyperbaric oxygen. CT of the orbit performed at the end of 6 weeks confirmed resolution of the fungal mass and chest x ray showed resolution of the pulmonary lesion. Intravenous antifungal therapy was continued for another 15 weeks, followed by oral fluconazole and potassium iodide for a further 10 weeks.

Three years later, there has been no evidence of recurrence of the fungal granuloma, the only sequelia of the orbital infection being a small angle exotropia of the left eye and epiphora (Fig 4).
producing nodular, subcutaneous masses and characteristically begins in the inferior nasal turbinates and extends to the perinasal tissues, producing nodular, subcutaneous masses and occasionally, severe disfigurement. Rarely, pulmonary and systemic infection may be encountered. Our is the first report of orbital infection with *C. coronatus,* and our patient appears to be the youngest case of entomophthoromycosis on record.

*C. coronatus* is ubiquitous in nature and is commonly present as a saprophyte in soil and on decaying vegetation. The majority of reports of human infection come from the tropical rain forest areas of Africa; however, this is the first report from Oman which experiences an arid climate. The pathogenesis of infection is unclear, but rarity of the disease indicates low intrinsic pathogenicity. The portal of entry of spores is believed to be by inhalation or direct inoculation. The child’s home, with open roofed hall, was located close to a small area containing humid and rotting vegetation. We suspect that prolonged antifungal treatment disturbed the normal immunity in our patient, allowing fungal spores to be e ective, including ketoconazole, itraconazole, fluconazole, sulphamethoxazole, potassium iodide, and amphotericin B. Susceptibility testing for fungi responsible for entomophthoromycosis is not standardised and is an unreliable guide to choice of therapeutic agent. Several authors have reported a beneficial effect of hyperbaric oxygen in rhinocerebral mucormycosis, and there has been one report of successful use in the therapy of *Conidiobolus* infection. Hyperbaric oxygen is believed to accelerate the healing process by enhancing vasodilatation, thereby improving perfusion of compromised infected tissue and augmenting immune responses. Our patient was successfully managed by employing more than one form of treatment. Progressive development of the child’s own immune system also, no doubt, contributed to resolution. It can only be conjectured whether one or more of these factors, acting independently or synergistically, was instrumental in her final recovery.

In conclusion, a healthy child with congenital lacrimal duct stenosis treated with prolonged courses of broad spectrum antibiotics, developed extensive and invasive orbital entomophthoramycosis by the fungus *C. coronatus.* Addition of hyperbaric oxygen to standard therapy (combination antifungal therapy and surgery) aided recovery. Although rare, the possibility of fungal superinfection should dissuade clinicians from indiscriminate use of antibiotics in the management of congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction.

We acknowledge the Public Health Laboratory (Mycology Reference Laboratory), Bristol, UK, for confirming the identity of the fungal isolate and Professor Des Gorman, Department of Medical Microbiology, Auckland University, New Zealand for advice on hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

**Letters**

**Fig. 4** Photograph of the patient 1 year after successful treatment of orbital entomophthoromycosis.

**COMMENT**

Infection with *Conidiobolus coronatus* characteristically begins in the inferior nasal turbinates and extends to the perinasal tissues, producing nodular, subcutaneous masses and occasionally, severe disfigurement. Rarely, pulmonary and systemic infection may be encountered. Our is the first report of orbital infection with *C. coronatus,* and our patient appears to be the youngest case of entomophthoromycosis on record.

*C. coronatus* is ubiquitous in nature and is commonly present as a saprophyte in soil and on decaying vegetation. The majority of reports of human infection come from the tropical rain forest areas of Africa; however, this is the first report from Oman which experiences an arid climate. The pathogenesis of infection is unclear, but rarity of the disease indicates low intrinsic pathogenicity. The portal of entry of spores is believed to be by inhalation or direct inoculation. The child’s home, with open roofed hall, was located close to a small area containing humid and rotting vegetation. We suspect that prolonged antifungal treatment disturbed the normal immunity in our patient, allowing fungal spores which had been inhaled or had entered her conjunctiva, to germinate and become established.

Diagnosis is made by demonstrating distinctive non-septate hyphae with surrounding eosinophilic sheath (Splendore–Hoeppli phenomenon) in tissue sections. Vascular invasion and thrombosis as well as tissue infarction are notably absent. Culture of the fungus allows identification of the species; however, as hyphal elements of *zygomycetes* are prone to physical damage, specimens must be directly inoculated onto culture media avoiding excessive grinding. Despite being recognised as a common laboratory contaminant, *C. coronatus* is infrequently isolated in the clinical laboratory, and in human infections, reliable culture identification of the fungus is made in less that 50% of the cases.

Although spontaneous resolution is known, the fungal granuloma is more likely to persist and extend without effective treatment. Surgery, which includes removal of infected tissue and reconstructive procedures, is seldom curative. A wide variety of antifungal drugs, singly or in combination, have been reported to be effective, including ketoconazole, itraconazole, fluconazole, sulphamethoxazole, potassium iodide, and amphotericin B. Susceptibility testing for fungi responsible for entomophthoromycosis is not standardised and is an unreliable guide to choice of therapeutic agent. Several authors have reported a beneficial effect of hyperbaric oxygen in rhinocerebral mucormycosis, and there has been one report of successful use in the therapy of *Conidiobolus* infection. Hyperbaric oxygen is believed to accelerate the healing process by enhancing vasodilatation, thereby improving perfusion of compromised infected tissue and augmenting immune responses. Our patient was successfully managed by employing more than one form of treatment. Progressive development of the child’s own immune system also, no doubt, contributed to resolution. It can only be conjectured whether one or more of these factors, acting independently or synergistically, was instrumental in her final recovery.

In conclusion, a healthy child with congenital lacrimal duct stenosis treated with prolonged courses of broad spectrum antibiotics, developed extensive and invasive orbital entomophthoramycosis by the fungus *C. coronatus.* Addition of hyperbaric oxygen to standard therapy (combination antifungal therapy and surgery) aided recovery. Although rare, the possibility of fungal superinfection should dissuade clinicians from indiscriminate use of antibiotics in the management of congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction.

We acknowledge the Public Health Laboratory (Mycology Reference Laboratory), Bristol, UK, for confirming the identity of the fungal isolate and Professor Des Gorman, Department of Medical Microbiology, Auckland University, New Zealand for advice on hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

**JOAN LITHANDER**
Department of Ophthalmology, Sultan Qaboos University, Sultanate of Oman

**ANDRÉ LOUVON**
Department of Anesthesiology

**EUAN SCRIMGEOUR**
Department of Medicine

**ELIZABETH WORTHING**
Department of Pharmacy

**ANURADHA GANESH**
Department of Ophthalmology

**YASEEN M AL-LAWATIA**
Department of Microbiology

**ABDULAZIZ ELAMIN**
Department of Child Health

**DILIP K SANKHLA**
Department of Radiology

**ALI R AL-JUMA**
Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine Unit, Said Bin Sultan Naval Base, Sultanate of Oman

Correspondence to: Dr Anuradha Ganesh, Department of Ophthalmology, Sultan Qaboos University Hospital, PO Box 38, Muscat, PC - 123, Sultanate of Oman

ganesh@omantel.net.om

Accepted for publication 24 October 2000

Bitot's spots and vitamin A deficiency in a child from the UK

ANDREW S RAMSAY, NELSON A SABROSA and CARLOS E PAVESIO

doi: 10.1136/bjo.85.3.371a

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://bjo.bmj.com/content/85/3/371.2

These include:

References
This article cites 5 articles, 2 of which you can access for free at:
http://bjo.bmj.com/content/85/3/371.2#BIBL

Email alerting service
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

Notes

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/