

Chilblain-like lesions during COVID-19 tied to type I interferonopathy

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(HealthDay)—Patients presenting with chilblain-like lesions during the

COVID-19 pandemic have histologic and biologic patterns of type I interferonopathy, according to a study published online Nov. 25 in *JAMA Dermatology*.

Thomas Hubiche, M.D., from Université Côte d'Azur in Nice, France, and colleagues assessed 40 consecutive patients presenting with chilblain-like [lesions](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic. Patients underwent skin biopsies, vascular investigations, biologic analyses, interferon-alpha stimulation and detection, and severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) [polymerase chain reaction](#) and serologic analysis.

The researchers found that most patients were young, with a median age of 22 years, and 19 patients were male. Chilblain-like lesions were mostly on the toes. Eleven patients had bullous and necrotic evolution, while 19 had acrocyanosis or cold toes. Just over one-fourth of patients (27.5 percent) had criteria compatible with COVID-19 cases within six weeks of the eruption, although all rapid testing results were negative. SARS-CoV-2 serology results were positive in 12 patients (30 percent). Six in 10 patients had elevated D-dimer concentration levels. All [patients](#) tested negative for cryoglobulinemia and parvovirus B19. Lymphocytic inflammation and vascular damage with thickening of venule walls and pericyte hyperplasia were the major histologic findings.

"Taken together, our results suggest that chilblain-like lesions observed during the COVID-19 pandemic represent manifestations of a viral-induced type I interferonopathy," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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