

Letter to Editor

TAXANE-Induced Cutaneous Manifestations

Rashmi Kaknoor Vageshappa¹, Suruthi Purushothaman¹

¹Department of Dermatology, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry, India.

***Corresponding author:**

Suruthi Purushothaman,
Department of Dermatology,
Jawaharlal Institute of
Postgraduate Medical
Education and Research,
Puducherry, India.

suruthidvlp@gmail.com

Received: 20 December 2024
Accepted: 07 January 2025
Epub Ahead of Print: 29 April 2025
Published:

DOI
10.25259/IJPGD_257_2024

Quick Response Code:



Dear Editor,

A 30-year-old female came to our clinic presenting with asymptomatic linear hyperpigmentation on her left forearm, which developed following a peripheral intravenous injection. She had been diagnosed with the right breast carcinoma, confirmed as Her2nu positive and underwent a modified radical mastectomy. Subsequently, she received chemotherapy that included docetaxel, carboplatin and trastuzumab, with docetaxel administered through intravenous infusion over five cycles. Approximately 4 weeks after her first dose of docetaxel, she observed pigmentation at the injection site on her left forearm.

On clinical examination, linear streaks of hyperpigmentation were noted over the flexor side of her left forearm [Figure 1]. The veins beneath these pigmented streaks were neither tender nor thickened.



Figure 1: Linear streaks of hyperpigmentation along the course of veins over the flexor aspect of the left forearm.



Figure 2: (a) Diffuse hyperpigmentation of the palms with scaling and increased pigmentation of the creases. (b) All the fingernails show bands of pigmentation.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 License, which allows others to remix, transform, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as the author is credited and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

©2025 Published by Scientific Scholar on behalf of Indian Journal of Postgraduate Dermatology

In addition, examination of her palms revealed ill-defined hyperpigmentation, scaling and increased pigmentation in the skin creases [Figure 2a]. All her fingernails exhibited bands of pigmentation [Figure 2b]. Chemotherapeutic agents are increasingly utilised in the treatment of breast cancer, yet dermatological side effects are often under-reported. Among the drugs known to cause cutaneous adverse effects, taxanes (such as Docetaxel and Paclitaxel) are the most commonly implicated.^[1] Serpentine supra-venous hyperpigmentation is a rarely documented dermatological side effect associated with the combination of docetaxel and carboplatin.

Ethical approval: Institutional Review Board approval is not required.

Declaration of patient consent: The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent.

Financial support and sponsorship: Nil.

Conflicts of interest: There are no conflicts of interest.

Use of artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted technology for manuscript preparation: The authors confirm that there was no use of artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted technology for assisting in the writing or editing of the manuscript and no images were manipulated using AI.

REFERENCE

1. Sibaud V, Leboeuf NR, Roche H, Belum VR, Gladiéff L, Deslandres M, *et al.* Dermatological Adverse Events with Taxane Chemotherapy. *Eur J Dermatol* 2016;26:427-43.

How to cite this article: Vageshappa RK, Purushothaman S. TAXANE-Induced Cutaneous Manifestations. *Indian J Postgrad Dermatol*. doi: 10.25259/IJPGD_257_2024