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## CASE REPORT

### Disseminated Tuberculosis in a Nigerian Adolescent with Linear IgA Bullous Dermatitis: A Case Report and Review of Literature

*Tuberculose Disséminée chez un Adolescent Nigérian Présentant une Dermatose Bulleuse à IgA Linéaire : Rapport de Cas et Revue de la Littérature*

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#### ABSTRACT

Linear IgA bullous dermatosis (LABD) is an auto-immune disease affecting young children and adults, characterized by the linear deposition of IgA at the basement membrane zone with resultant complement activation and a cascade of immune reactions. There is a loss of adhesion at the dermo-epidermal junction and subsequent blister formation. It is a rare disease that has a good prognosis with adequate therapy. However, the underlying depressed immunity associated with the disease may expose them to such infections as tuberculosis. We report the case of an 11-years-old Nigerian female adolescent with LABD, diagnosed at the age of four years but defaulted on follow-up, who developed disseminated tuberculosis (pulmonary, lymph nodes, abdominal and pericardial effusion) seven years after the appearance of the initial blistering skin lesions. She commenced anti-tuberculosis drugs, steroids, and a tube pericardiostomy for the pericardial effusion. Dapsone was initiated for the LABD during the continuation phase of anti-tuberculosis therapy, with subsequent disappearance of the skin rash within two weeks. **WAJM 2022; 39(6): 646–650.**

**Keywords:** Linear IgA, bullous dermatosis, disseminated Tuberculosis, adolescent.

#### RÉSUMÉ

La dermatose bulleuse linéaire à IgA (DBL) est une maladie auto-immune affectant les jeunes enfants et les adultes, caractérisée par le dépôt linéaire d'IgA dans la zone de la membrane basale, avec l'activation du complément qui en résulte et une cascade de réactions immunitaires. Il y a une perte d'adhérence à la jonction dermo-épidermique et une formation ultérieure de vésicules. C'est une maladie rare qui a un bon pronostic avec un traitement adéquat. Cependant, l'immunité déprimée sous-jacente associée à la maladie peut les exposer à des infections telles que la tuberculose. Nous rapportons le cas d'une adolescente nigériane de 11 ans atteinte de la LABD, diagnostiquée à l'âge de quatre ans mais en défaut de suivi, qui a développé une tuberculose disséminée (pulmonaire, ganglions lymphatiques, épanchement abdominal et péricardique) sept ans après l'apparition des lésions cutanées vésiculeuses initiales. Elle a commencé à recevoir des médicaments antituberculeux, des stéroïdes et une péricardiostomie par sonde pour l'épanchement péricardique. La dapsone a été initiée pour la DLB pendant la phase de continuation du traitement antituberculeux, avec une disparition de l'éruption cutanée en deux semaines. **WAJM 2022; 39(6): 646–650.**

**Mots clés:** IgA linéaire, dermatose bulleuse, tuberculose disséminée, adolescent.

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