

Clinical-Medical Image

## The Curious Case of Leaky Blue Blebs: A Rare Image of Blue Rubber Bleb Nevus Syndrome

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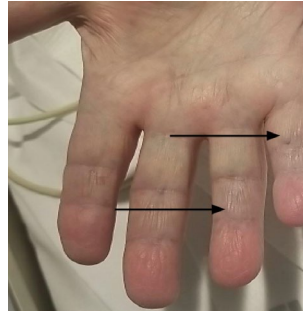


Figure 1: Pertinent examination findings included dark blue compressive papules on the hands and soles of the feet.

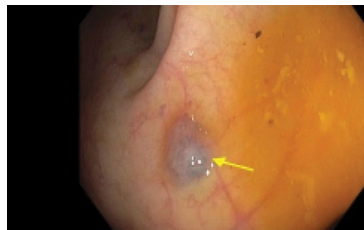
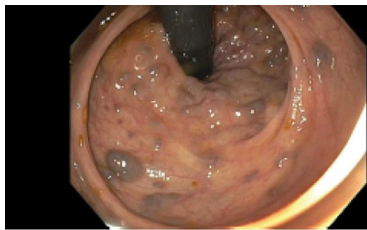


Figure 2: Endoscopic evaluation. Figure 3: Endoscopic evaluation in different position. Figure 4: Endoscopic evaluation in another position.

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A 78-year old Caucasian male with chronic iron deficiency anemia requiring periodic blood transfusions presented to the hospital with generalized weakness and dyspnea on exertion for six months. Initial lab work revealed hemoglobin of 4.7 g/dL (baseline 7.2 g/dL). He reported no overt signs of gastrointestinal bleeding. Pertinent examination findings included dark blue compressive papules on the hands and soles of the feet (Figure 1). Endoscopic evaluation included an unremarkable esophagogastroduodenoscopy and colonoscopy findings of multiple; diffuse medium-sized submucosal varicosities of the sigmoid colon and rectum without bleeding (Figures 2-4). He was treated conservatively with transfusion of packed red blood cells and iron supplementation and discharged in stable condition. Given the patient's chronic anemia, skin lesions and endoscopic findings, diagnosis of blue rubber bleb nevus syndrome was made. There are no guidelines regarding the management of this condition. In the medical literature only 150 cases have been reported. Typically patients respond well to conservative management but others may require surgical intervention. Patient has done well with iron supplementation and infrequent need for blood transfusions [1].

**Keywords:** Schwannoma; Dorsal; Spine; MRI

### References

[1] Moodley M, and Ramdial P (1993) Blue rubber bleb nevus syndrome: Case report and review of the literature. *Pediatrics* 92: 160-162.

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