



Skin lesion

Jerzy K Pawlak, MBBS, MSc, PhD, is a general practitioner, Winnipeg, Canada.

Case history

An elderly woman, 79 years of age, presented with a skin lesion that had appeared a few weeks previously. It has a central keratotic plug and a fleshy rim.



Question 1

What is the diagnosis?

Question 2

What is the significance?

Question 3

What is the treatment?

ANSWERS TO AUGUST BRAIN TEASER



Answer 1

Erysipelas or cellulitis of the face.

Answer 2

This condition is distinguished from acute facial eczema by associated systemic features including fever, high erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) and, retrospectively, raised antistreptolysin O titre.

Answer 3

Culture of skin swabs, aspiration of tissue fluid, or skin biopsy specimens rarely result in culture of the causative organism – *streptococcus pyogenes* (Lancefield Group A). As noted above, ESR and antistreptolysin O titre may be confirmatory.

Send your answers to arrive by 20 September. A prize of 12 months subscription to 'eTG complete' valued at \$240 will be donated by Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd to the first correct entry drawn. The winner will be notified by mail and the answers published in the October issue.



Therapeutic Guidelines

Freecall 1800 061 260

Email entries to: afp@racgp.org.au
OR mail to:
September Brain Teaser
Australian Family Physician
1 Palmerston Crescent
South Melbourne

The winner of the August Brain teaser is Dr Nicole Anderson, Dutton Park, Qld