Case Report

Delayed Diagnosis of Necrotizing Fasciitis of the Hand After a Cat Bite: A Case Report

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Abstract

Introduction: Cat bites can cause rapidly progressive soft tissue infections.

Case presentation: A 54-year-old woman presented two days after a cat bite with swelling and pain out of proportion to the examination. Urgent debridement confirmed necrotizing fasciitis.

Conclusion: Pain out of proportion after an animal bite should prompt early surgical evaluation. (Fictional case for template demonstration.)

Keywords: necrotizing fasciitis; cat bite; hand infection; case report

Introduction

Cat bites penetrate deeply and frequently become infected.[1,2]

Case Presentation

A 54-year-old woman presented with a swollen, tense hand (Fig. 1). Bedside ultrasound showed fluid tracking along the fascia (Video 1).[3] She underwent urgent debridement and recovered well.

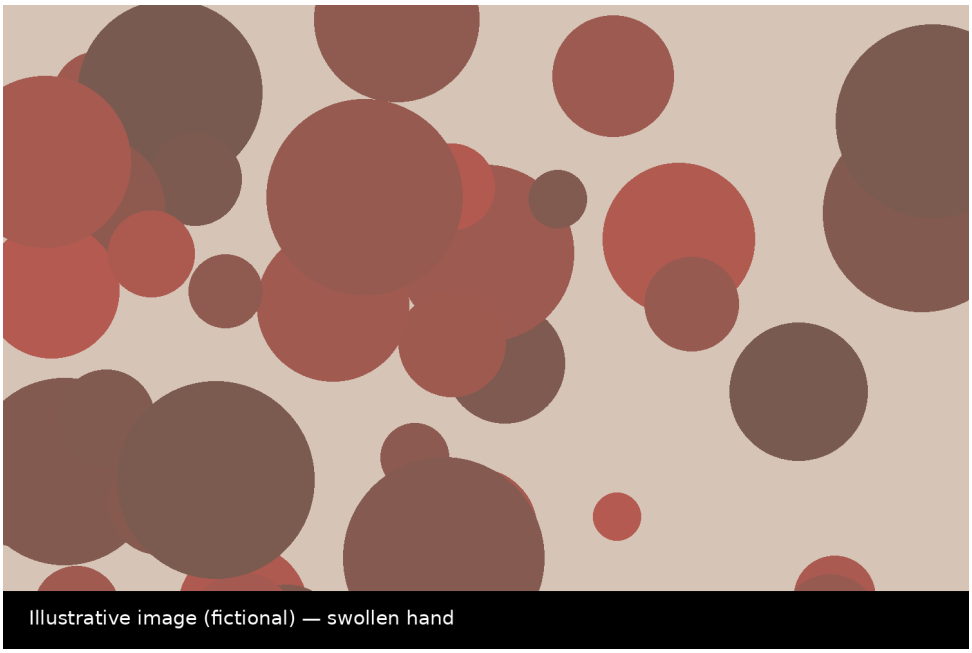


Fig. 1. Clinical photograph of the swollen hand at presentation (illustrative).

Discussion

Early recognition and surgery are the most important determinants of outcome.[3,4]

References

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