

Possible Ring like Late Pacemaker Allergy

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Clinical Image

Permanent pacemaker implantations have been lately increasing in numbers due to the population aging and the increase prevalence of heart diseases globally. A female patient, 84 years of age received a mechanical pacemaker due to bradycardia (33-39 beats per/min heart rate). The patient presented no complications. However, 11 months after the implantation a late hypersensitivity reaction to some of the materials used in generators or in electrodes appeared. Although a combination with an infection could have been the case, to the patient were administered blindly anti-allergic drugs, as she was unable to be transported for further investigation (geriatric patient, paraplegia). Dimetindene gel 0.1% locally and methylprednisolone 4mg per os were granted for the alleviation. In the 3rd day no mark was left and 4 months after the episode no further complication was noted. Possible skin allergy depicted as a ring around the pacemaker, causing cutaneous redness and itching [1,2]. Commercially available mechanical pacemakers are very useful but still present symptoms like a risk of infection and metal allergy, even if they could have a late appearance (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Ring like allergy due to a pacemaker implantation.

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