Author's response to reviews

Title: An unusual pattern of skin pigmentation during pregnancy: a case report

Authors:

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Version: 2 Date: 29 June 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
To,
The Editor

Sub: Re-submission of revised manuscript

Dear Sir,

Thanks for the comments, and the intention to accept this manuscript for publication.

Response to the comments

Reviewer’s report 1
Title: An unusual pattern of skin pigmentation during pregnancy: case report
No change on title made

Comments to authors:

Please describe more about local skin examination like if pigmentation is diffuse or confluent, colour and progression of the disease (rapid or gradual). changes made

Any history of itching/irritation. There was no history of itching (this is added)

Please discuss differential diagnosis of hyperpigmentation/this case This is unusual case involving skin pigmentation; there is no much information on the literature. Despite this we tried to include pre-existing thyroidism as one of the cause, Nevoid hyperkeratosis, and dermal melanocytois (Discussion).

Authors should highlight that although benign hyperpigmentation is a common phenomenon with pregnancy but this patient showed extensive pigmentation. This was added

Many grammatical/spelling errors. corrections made

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited Review of grammar and typos was done!

Reviewer’s report 2
Title: An unusual pattern of skin pigmentation during pregnancy: case report
Version: 1 Date: 3 May 2011

Comments to authors:

Pigmentary changes are the commonest physiologic changes seen in pregnancy. These are more common in darker skin types. Pigmentation of nipples, areolae, axilla, neck and other flexures is quite common. Band like pigmentation over the
abdomen is also seen not infrequently. Pigmentation involving the umbilical area, extending to the symphysis pubis has also been reported. (Dr Robert P. Blereau | September 1, 2002, Three Cases of Hyperpigmentation of Pregnancy, Consultantlive.com Vol. 42 No. 10). This reference was added in the manuscript. However such extensive pigmentation involving the abdomen and breasts is unusual, and hence, is worth reporting.

The presentation and the text need refinement. Done

A biopsy of the pigmented area could have been more helpful in excluding any other likely pathology or association. After reviewing literature we didn’t get a good reason to biopsy woman’s skin, although in this case it was extensive, there was no any other abnormalities in other system. We would have considered biopsy if the lesion is raised or associated with itching. Had it been in full resourced hospital, we would also like to do some of the hormonal assays.

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Thanking you,

Yours’ sincerely,

Anthony Massinde M.D.,M.Med OBGYN