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The Brunei International Medical Journal (BIMJ) is a six monthly peer reviewed official publication of the Ministry of Health under the auspices of the Clinical Research Unit, Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam.

The BIMJ publishes articles ranging from original research papers, review articles, medical practice papers, special reports, audits, case reports, images of interest, education and technical/innovation papers, editorials, commentaries and letters to the Editor. Topics of interest include all subjects that relate to clinical practice and research in all branches of medicine, basic and clinical including topics related to allied health care fields. The BIMJ welcomes manuscripts from contributors, but usually solicits reviews articles and special reports. Proposals for review papers can be sent to the Managing Editor directly. Please refer to the contact information of the Editorial Office.

Instruction to authors

Manuscript submissions

All manuscripts should be sent to the Managing Editor, BIMJ, Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam; e-mail: editor-in-chief@bimjonline.com. Subsequent correspondence between the BIMJ and authors will, as far as possible via should be conducted via email quoting the reference number.

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Ethical considerations will be taken into account in the assessment of papers that have experimental investigations of human or animal subjects. Authors should state clearly in the Materials and Methods section of the manuscript that institutional review board has approved the project. Those investigators without such review boards should ensure that the principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki have been followed.

Manuscript categories

Original articles

These include controlled trials, interventional studies, studies of screening and diagnostic tests, outcome studies, cost-effectiveness analyses, and large-scale epidemiological studies. Manuscript should include the following; introduction, materials and methods, results and conclusion. The objective should be stated clearly in the introduction. The text should not exceed 2500 words and references not more than 30.

Review articles

These are, in general, invited papers, but unsolicited reviews, if of good quality, may be considered. Reviews are systematic critical assessments of

literature and data sources pertaining to clinical topics, emphasising factors such as cause, diagnosis, prognosis, therapy, or prevention. Reviews should be made relevant to our local setting and preferably supported by local data. The text should not exceed 3000 words and references not more than 40.

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This section usually consist of invited reports that have significant impact on healthcare practice and usually cover disease outbreaks, management guidelines or policy statement paper.

Audits

Audits of relevant topics generally follow the same format as original article and the text should not exceed 1,500 words and references not more than 20.

Case reports

Case reports should highlight interesting rare cases or provide good learning points. The text should not exceed 1000 words; the number of tables, figures, or both should not be more than two, and references should not be more than 15.

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This section includes papers (i.e. how to interpret ECG or chest radiography) with particular aim of broadening knowledge or serve as revision materials. Papers will usually be invited but well written paper on relevant topics may be accepted. The text should not exceed 1500 words and should include not more than 15 figures illustration and references should not be more than 15.

Images of interest

These are papers presenting unique clinical encounters that are illustrated by photographs, radiographs, or other figures. Image of interest should include a brief description of the case and discussion with educational aspects. Alternatively, a mini quiz can be presented and answers will be posted in a different section of the publication. A maximum of

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Manuscripts submitted to the BIMJ should meet the following criteria: the content is original; the writing is clear; the study methods are appropriate; the data are valid; the conclusions are reasonable and supported by the data; the information is important; and the topic has general medical interest. Manuscripts will be accepted only if both their contents and style meet the standards required by the BIMJ.

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Justin Fook Siong KEASBERRY, Herollenienor Felah HUSSIN, Chean Lin CHONG



Figure 1a



Figure 1b

This 16 yr old Malay male presented with a 1-month history of crampy abdominal pain, vomiting, constitutional symptoms, worsening pancytopenia and weight loss. He subsequently developed a typical facial rash with sparing of the nasolabial fold (Figure 1a) and at photosensitive sites. There were also purplish non-blanching purpura and petechiae over the pulps of his fingers (Figure 1b). He also has a sister who has been diagnosed with an auto-immune condition.

What is the diagnosis?

Answer: refer to page 173

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