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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.

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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

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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.

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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.

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Amit Kumar C Jain, Apoorva HC, Richa Kurian



Figure 1

A 73 year old male diabetic and hypertensive patient presented with history of pain and swelling of the right lower limb of 3-4 days duration. This was increasing in severity and he also started having fever. Patient initially noticed redness over the foot which had rapidly ascended till upper leg. There was no history of preceding trauma. On examination, there was bright red discoloration of the right lower limb extending from foot to proximal part of leg. It was well defined erythema (**Figure 1**). There was pitting edema and local rise of temperature apart from tenderness. Patient had developed a blister that had ruptured. His pulse was 160 beats/min, GRBS of 191 mg% and HbA1C was 9%.

What is the diagnosis?

Answer: refer to page [146](#)

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DISCLOSURE: There is no conflict of interest and consent has been obtained from patient for use of this image.

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(Refer to page [145](#))

ANSWER: ERYSIPELAS

Erysipelas is an acute infection of epidermis and superficial dermis which commonly affects old and immune-compromised people and also young children.¹ It was a common condition years ago that had nearly disappeared with advent of antimicrobials and recently it is found that incidence of erysipelas is increasing.²

Erysipelas is also known as **St Anthony's Fire** due to presence of intense fiery rash.^{2,3} It is named as 'St Antony Fire' as it was believed that only St Antony, who was a monk centuries ago, could cure this condition.¹ The risk factors for erysipelas include diabetes, alcoholism, malignancy, corticosteroid therapy etc.⁴

It is most commonly caused by beta hemolytic streptococcus though other variety of bacteria, can also cause it.^{1,2}

Patient's usually presents with erythema, edema, pain along with local rise of temperature and has systemic symptoms like malaise, fever and shivering.⁴ It affects lower limb and face frequently and may involve lymphatics.² The diagnosis of erysipelas often overlaps with cellulitis and many times a definite distinction in the two entities cannot be made.³ It is often recommended that both these diseases should be considered as single one.⁴ Erysipelas has raised demarcated edges whereas cellulitis has more diffuse margins.

Diagnosis is clinical and mainstay of treatment is antibiotics with penicillin group of drugs often preferred as first choice. Prognosis is excellent though recurrence could be as high as 20%.¹ Few patients may have complications like septicemia and necrotizing fasciitis which may require surgical interven-

tion.¹

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