Case 21
A 44 year-old Thai woman from Bangkok

Chief complaint: she had asymptomatic papules on face 2 weeks PTA

Present illness: 2 week PTA, she developed asymptomatic erythematous waxy papules on face

Past History: She is healthy and had no history of any disease.

Family History: No one in her family has the same skin lesions.

Physical examination:
Skin: Generalized erythematous waxy papules on face, firm on palpation
Oral mucosa: normal
Otherwise are unremarkable

Histopathology (S 03-13299)

There are multiple aggregate of bone spicules

Diagnosis: Osteoma cutis

Presenter: Suporn Rujsutthi
Consultant: Siripen Puavilai

Discussion:
Osteoma cutis, also called cutaneous ossification, refers to the rare occurrence of bone in the skin. It may be primary, occurring in normal skin, or secondary, occurring in disrupted skin tissue. Osteoma cutis is a rare tumour of the dermis which can only be diagnosed histologically. Pathogenetically, primary (neoplastic) and secondary (metaplastic) ossification must be differentiated.

Primary ossification may lead to congenital osteomas and occurs in Albright’s hereditary osteodystrophy and in Gardner’s syndrome. Secondary, metaplastic ossification may be seen in association with cutaneous tumours, scars or inflammatory processes. Postacne osteoma cutis is a rare complication of acne vulgaris. If it occurs during a course of tetracycline or minocycline therapy, pigmented osteomas can occur as a result of tetracycline or minocycline bone complexes.

References: