Atypical Wounds

Presented by:
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Objectives:

- Identify some atypical wounds
- Describe the clinical aspects
- Discuss the means of treatment
Chronic wounds
Atypical wounds
Causes

- Autoimmune disorders
- Infections
- Metabolic
- Malginancy
- External
Autoimmune disorders

- Occurs when the body’s immune system attacks and destroys healthy body tissue by mistake
- Exact cause unknown
- More than 80 types of autoimmune disorders
- Among the leading causes of death among women in Canada in all age groups
- Affects approx. 2 to 5% of western world’s population
Autoimmune diseases

- Skin disorders
  - Scleroderma

- Vasculopathy
  - Vasculitis

- Inflammatory dermatosis
  - Pyoderma gangrenosum
  - Bullous pemphigoid
Scleroderma

- Affects the connective tissue specifically collagen

- Commonly occurs on the fingers and toes

- Literally means hard skin
Vasculitis
Pyoderma Gangrenosum

- Resulting in ulceration of unknown etiology
Pyoderma gangrenosum
Bullous pemphigoid
Infective disorders
Mycobacterial infection

Microbes commonly present in soil and water

Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC)

Characterised by skin lesions
Necrotizing fasciitis

- Commonly known as flesh-eating disease
- Rapidly progressive skin infection
Necrotizing fasciitis

Surgical intervention
Malignant wounds
Malginant Wounds

- Basal cell carcinoma
- Squamous cell carcinoma
- Fungating breast tumour
Venous leg ulcer secondary to T-cell lymphoma
Metabolic causes
Calciphylaxis

- Vascular calcification, thrombosis and skin necrosis
- Seen mostly in end-stage renal failure
- Painful skin ulcers
External causes
Bites

Brown Recluse Spider
Atypical wounds
Summary

- Listen
- Make sure to include and exclude
- Listen for recurrence and exacerbations
- Don’t discount co-morbidities that you think are “unrelated” to the wound
- Re-evaluate if no healing in 4 weeks
- Think outside the box
Questions