Condylomata acuminata in children: report of four cases

MOHAMMED AMEEN SAIT AND B R GARG
From the Department of Dermatology and Sexually Transmitted Disease, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry, India

SUMMARY Four cases of condylomata acuminata in children (two boys, two girls) are reported. Three children had perianal warts and one vulvar warts. One of the four children had been sexually assaulted, but a history of sexual contact was absent in the other three. Surgical excision was undertaken in one case and the others responded well to the local application of 25% podophyllin in benzoin tincture compound. In the absence of sexual contact, a non-coital mode of transmission of infection could be a possibility.

Introduction
Condylomata acuminata are epithelial tumours caused by a human papillomavirus (HPV) of the papova group, which affects the genitalia, perianal region, rectal and urethral mucosae, and sometimes the oral cavity. Although several types of HPV have been isolated, HPV type 6 has been found to be predominantly associated with these warts. Both sexes are affected equally, and the infection is usually transmitted by sexual intercourse, although spread by autoinoculation from the hands may sometimes occur. The peak incidence occurs in people in their 20s, and reports of condylomata acuminata in children are rare.

Case reports
The table summarises the cases described in this report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Duration of lesions</th>
<th>Sites affected</th>
<th>Investigations</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1½ years</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>Perianal</td>
<td>Negative CA</td>
<td>Excision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8 months</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>Perianal</td>
<td>Negative CA</td>
<td>Podophyllin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1½ years</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>Perianal</td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>Podophyllin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>12 years</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>15 days</td>
<td>Vulval</td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>Podophyllin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VDRL = Venereal Disease Research Laboratory test for syphilis.
CA = Condylomata acuminata (biopsy not performed in cases 3 and 4).

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Address for reprints: Dr B R Garg, Associate Professor and Head of Department, Department of Dermatology and STD, JIPMER, Pondicherry 605006, India

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FIG 1 Large cauliflower like growth of condylomata acuminata in perianal region obscuring anal orifice.

FIG 2 Parakeratosis, irregular acanthosis, and diagnostic vacuolated cells in the upper stratum malphigii (× 100 original magnification).

FIG 3 Diagnostic virus infected vacuolated cells of stratum malphigii as seen under high power magnification (× 400 original magnification).
cases in the upper stratum malphigii. The dermis showed dilated capillaries and a chronic inflammatory infiltrate (fig 2). Figure 3 shows the conspicuous vacuolated cells seen under high power magnification (× 400). The lesion was excised surgically under general anesthesia. A few pedunculated lesions recurred, and were subsequently treated with local application of 25% podophyllin in benzoin tincture compound.

CASE 2
An 8 month old boy was brought by his parents to the skin department with a two month history of warty lesions in the perianal region. The child had been apparently normal at birth, which was vaginal delivery after an uneventful pregnancy. His father gave a 2½ year history of genital warts for which he had not received any treatment. He denied having had any sexual contact with the child. On examination the child was found to have multiple dry warty and pedunculated growths around the anal margin (fig 4). The rectal mucosa and the external genitalia were normal, and systemic examination showed no abnormal features. His mother did not have warts but his father had small dry pedunculated lesions on the mucosal surface of the prepuce. Serological tests for syphilis in the infant and his parents gave negative results. Histopathological examination of biopsy specimens confirmed the diagnosis of condylomata acuminata. Both the infant and his father were treated with topical application of 25% podophyllin in benzoin tincture compound.

CASE 3
A 1½ year old girl was referred to the skin outpatient department when her parents had noted
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...Condylomata in the parents of the Examination parents pedunculated tests from her older labia majora, acuminata condylomata external gave...Discussion

...in some instances the parents of the affected children there...lesions.6 such were observed in reported condylomata month old...mode understood. Some...language...He...spread source...incidence of...genital warts or gave a history of...vagina. In the report published here...Condylomata acuminata...year old...The...of infection and...found elsewhere. However, such lesions...external...in adults...probably provides...of...youngest case...to be...in...in...cases to...et...The...of...of...to...in...due...different workers,...deny...a...of...absence of...in...genital...in...cases,...reported...condylomata acuminata,...as...in...parents...in...the...of...sexual...abuse...of...by...accidental inoculation from parents to their children,...as...by...Baruah et al.13 Incidentally, Tang et al proposed transplacental...anus...hematogenous...in...a...in...predominantly in...for...in...in...in...of...in...and...in...social and...of...of...in...of...contact...in...in...genital...condylomata acuminata...acuminata, as they...topical...applications...can...be...used...for...sparse...and...localised...in...our...experience...several...applications...of...podophyllin...were...required...before...any...appreciable...response...could...be...obtained....other...treatments...of...genital...warts...in...children...have...included...topical...sulfisoxazole...5%...ammoniated...mercury...ointment...and...fulgaration...cryotherapy...immunotherapy...with...autovaccines...References


