

Collodion Baby

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ABSTRACT

Clinical image of one day old newborn baby with a thick shiny skin membrane covering the entire body. On examination the child also had bilateral ectropion and eclabium. The newborn was managed conservatively with expressed breast milk feeds and adequate intravenous fluids administration. Collodion babies are born with a shiny, taut, translucent membrane encasing the entire body that lasts for few days to weeks. Most commonly these babies are associated with autosomal recessive ichthyoses. Management of these babies is targeted to prevent the temperature instability and fluid loss.

Keywords:

collodion baby, ichthyosis

An one day old newborn term male baby born to consanguineously (third degree) married parents by spontaneous vaginal delivery was noted to have born with a thick shiny skin membrane covering the entire body. On examination child also had bilateral ectropion and eclabium. (Figure1) The newborn was hemodynamically stable following expressed breast milk feeds and adequate intravenous fluids administration. Adequate nursing and new born care was given to maintain thermoregulation and to prevent infections.

Collodion baby is a severe form of congenital ichthyosis detected in the early neonatal period. Collodion babies are born with a shiny, taut, translucent membrane encasing the entire body that lasts for few days to weeks. Most commonly these babies are associated with autosomal recessive ichthyoses and in few babies the membrane is shed off completely. Despite the thickened skin membrane temperature instability, trans-epidermal fluid loss and electrolyte disturbances are seen due to the poor skin barrier function. Management of these babies is targeted to prevent the temperature instability and fluid loss.

Figure 1: Newborn with shiny taut skin encasing the whole body. Minimal ectropion and eclabium is also seen



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