

## A Strange Mosaic-Like Skin Pigmentation in a 2-Year-Old Child

Linda Tognetti<sup>1</sup>, Davide Cosetti<sup>1</sup>, Pietro Rubegni<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dermatologic Sciences Unit, Department of Clinical Medicine and Immunologic Sciences, University of Siena, Siena, Italy.

**Citation:** Tognetti L, Cosetti D, Rubegni P. A strange mosaic-like skin pigmentation in a 2-year old child. *Dermatol Pract Concept.* 2021; 11(4):e2021135. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5826/dpc.1104a135>

**Accepted:** March 12, 2021; **Published:** October, 2021

**Copyright:** ©2021 Tognetti et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License BY-NC-4.0, which permits unrestricted noncommercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original authors and source are credited.

**Funding:** None.

**Competing interests:** None.

**Authorship:** All authors have contributed significantly to this publication.

**Corresponding author:** Davide Cosetti MD, Dermatologic Sciences Unit, “Le Scotte” Hospital, Viale Bracci 14, Siena, Italy. Email: [cosetti.davide@gmail.com](mailto:cosetti.davide@gmail.com)

### Case Presentation

A 2-year-old boy presented to the first aid for a strange skin pigmentation present since 2 months. Personal history was negative for application of perfumes, new clothes, drug intake, sun-exposure, or any change in usual habits or alimentation. There was no history of atopy, hypersensitivity, skin reaction to insect bites, or any other dermatosis. The lesions were asymptomatic. Dermatologic consultation was required.

Clinical and dermoscopic findings were consistent with an exogenous pigmentation diagnosis [1]. Clinical history investigation finally revealed the use of a specific type of cleaning wipe for babies used for the child skin cleansing. Recently, that specific cleaning wipe was reported to cause orangish-to-brownish hyperpigmentation due to alteration of ascorbic acid during packaging [2,3].

### Teaching Point

Brownish pigmented areas with overall well-defined margins were present on the lower abdomen, the anterior surface of the thighs, and the proximal legs (Figure 1A). Polarized dermoscopy highlighted a light-brown pigment mesh localized to dermatoglyphics (Figure 1, B-D).



**Figure 1.** (A) Brownish pigmented areas with overall well-defined margins on the lower abdomen, and the proximal legs. (B) Polarized dermoscopy performed over the right external thigh on the hyper pigmented area, of the abdomen (C) and of the knee area (D) revealing the presence of an exogenous pigmentation, limited to the upper stratum corneum, sparing adnexa follicular openings.

## References

1. Tognetti L et al.. Dermoscopy: fundamentals and technology advances. In: Fimiani M, Rubegni P, Cinotti E, eds. *Technology in Practical Dermatology, Photorejuvenation: concepts, practice, perspectives*. Springer Nature. 2020: chapter 1:3-24. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-45351-0\_1.
2. Bassi A, Mazzatenta C. “Epidemic” exogenous skin pigmentation caused by the use of baby wipes: when the guilty is ascorbic acid. *Int J Dermatol*. 2020;59(12):473-474 DOI: 10.1111/ijd.15103.
3. Guglielmo A, Viridi A, Vincenzi C, Zanotti Russo M, Sechi A, Patrizi A, Neri I. The “coloring wipes” phenomenon: a peculiar skin pigmentation induced by ascorbic acid observed during lockdown. *Clin Exp Dermatol*. 2021;46(6):1075-1078. DOI: 10.1111/ced.14606. PMID: 33577095.