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A case with prediagnosis of soft tissue infection who finally diagnosed as pyoderma gangrenosum of ulcerative colitis

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Dear Editor,

Pyoderma gangrenosum is a rare disorder characterized by inflammatory and ulcerative skin lesions. In this case report, we aimed to present our patient who had a prediagnosis of soft tissue infection and skin ulcers, and was eventually diagnosed with ulcerative colitis-associated pyoderma gangrenosum.

A 30-year-old female patient was admitted to the emergency department with skin lesions on her kneecap and lower neck (Fig. 1A). The patient's skin lesions were considered as infective ulcers, and the patient was admitted to the infectious diseases clinic. The patient had received antibiotics of meropenem and teicoplanin in the follow-up. Surgical debridement was

performed but after debridement, the wound had progressed (Fig. 1B). Then the patient was consulted to the dermatology and our department of gastroenterology. She indicated occasional rectal bleeding but there was no complaint of active diarrhea. The dermatologist considered pyoderma gangrenosum because of the characteristic skin lesions. Thereupon, the patient underwent colonoscopy. Colonoscopy revealed ulcerative pancolitis (Fig. 1C). The patient was transferred to our clinic, her antibiotics were stopped, corticosteroid and mesalazine treatments were started (1). There was good response to treatments and skin findings regressed. The follow-up of the patient continues in coordination with the dermatologist. Physicians should keep in mind that pyoderma gangrenosum may occur even before the diagnosis of ulcerative colitis.

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Figure 1. A. Skin lesion in the lower neck. B. The appearance of the skin lesion in the kneecap after surgical debridement. C. Colonoscopic view of the patient with ulcerative pancolitis.

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