Case Report

Neck localized cutis laxa

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1. Introduction
A rarely reported cutaneous change is acquired cutis laxa, either as a generalized or localized process. Cutis laxa, also called elastolysis, presents with soft redundant folds of skin that are inelastic, and histology shows sparse, short and fragmented elastic fibres. We present a 23-year-old woman with neck localized cutis laxa. In our case skin biopsies were taken and histopathologic examination revealed that dermal elastic fibers were markedly decreased. These pathologic findings were compatible with cutis laxa. The clinical findings suggested to the localized type of the disease.

2. Case report
A 23-year-old female patient was admitted to our hospital, due to complaints of itching and swelling on her neck and nape (Fig. 1a, b). The skin was dark pink and hung loosely. The complaint has continued for two years. Aside from the neck skin pathology, no particular abnormality was noted on the physical examination, and laboratory tests including complete blood count, total protein, β2-microglobulin, IgG, IgM, C3, C1q and antinuclear antibody (ANA). The other physical examination was also normal. Neck lift surgery was performed and the patient has respectively been recovered by surgery at 4 week. Skin biopsies were taken and histopathologic examination revealed that dermal elastic fibers were markedly decreased (Fig. 2a, b). These pathologic findings were compatible with cutis laxa. The clinical findings suggested to the localized type of the disease.

3. Discussion
Cutis laxa that is dermatomalasis or generalized elastolysis is a rare condition characterized clinically by loose pendulous skin and histologically by the loss of dermal elastic fibers and, the disorder may be inherited or acquired, both forms being generalized or localized (Rongioletti et al., 2002; Lucas

Fig. 1a,b. Preoperative right and left lateral appearance of the patient showing that pendulous skin with a wrinkled surface on her neck and nape.
Patients with either the recessive or dominant forms have few complications; and as a rare X-linked recessive variant is a relatively benign with largely skin manifestations and late involvement and early death. Autosomal dominant form revealed diminution of elastic fibers around dermal vessels. Skin biopsies were taken and histopathologic examination revealed that dermal elastic fibers were markedly decreased.

The congenital form may be inherited as an autosomal recessive disorder, with severe pulmonary and cardiovascular involvement and early death. Autosomal dominant form is a relatively benign with largely skin manifestations and few complications; and as a rare X-linked recessive variant of inheritance (Riveros et al., 2004). There have been a few reports of acquired form of disease associated with multiple myeloma and furthermore there are only 2 reported cases of myeloma associated with the acral localized type (Appiah et al., 2008). In this type of the disorder the amyloid deposition was seen surrounding dermal vessels and elastic tissue revealed diminution of elastic fibers around dermal vessels.

The acquired form of the disorder is very rare, that is may occur about 30 cases have been presented (Rongioletti et al., 2002). Some cases have been preceded by hypersensitivity reactions to penicillin and the others have been associated with myeloma, cutaneous lymphoma, systemic lupus erythematosus, nephrotic syndrome and celiac disease (Rongioletti et al., 2002; Appiah et al., 2008; Lucas et al., 2009). Cutis laxa refers to a heterogeneous group of diseases with a characteristic clinical appearance of premature aging. These conditions are distinguished by the age of onset of dermatologic signs whether congenital or acquired, extension of cutaneous involvement, presence of systemic compromise, and pattern of inheritance (Riveros et al., 2004). There have been a few reports of acquired form of disease associated with multiple myeloma and furthermore there are only 2 reported cases of myeloma associated with the acral localized type (Appiah et al., 2008). In this type of the disorder the amyloid deposition was seen surrounding dermal vessels and elastic tissue revealed diminution of elastic fibers around dermal vessels.

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